

HISTORY
of
HARTLAND

The 69th Town in
The Colony of Connecticut

Compiled by
Stanley A. Ransom

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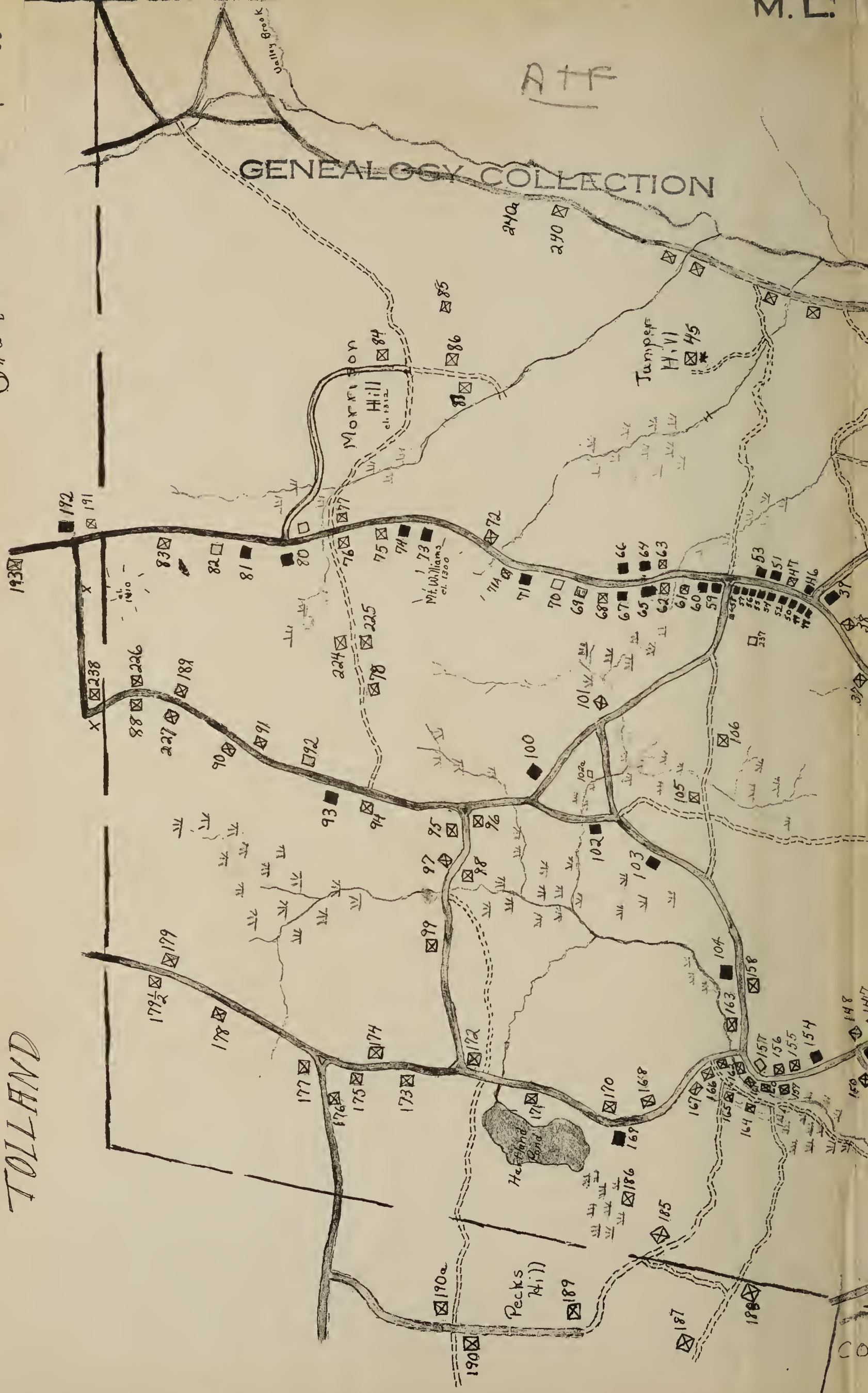
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GRANVILLE

TOLLAND

GENEALOGY COLLECTION

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KEY MAP OF WEST
HARTLAND HOMESTEADS

up to 1911

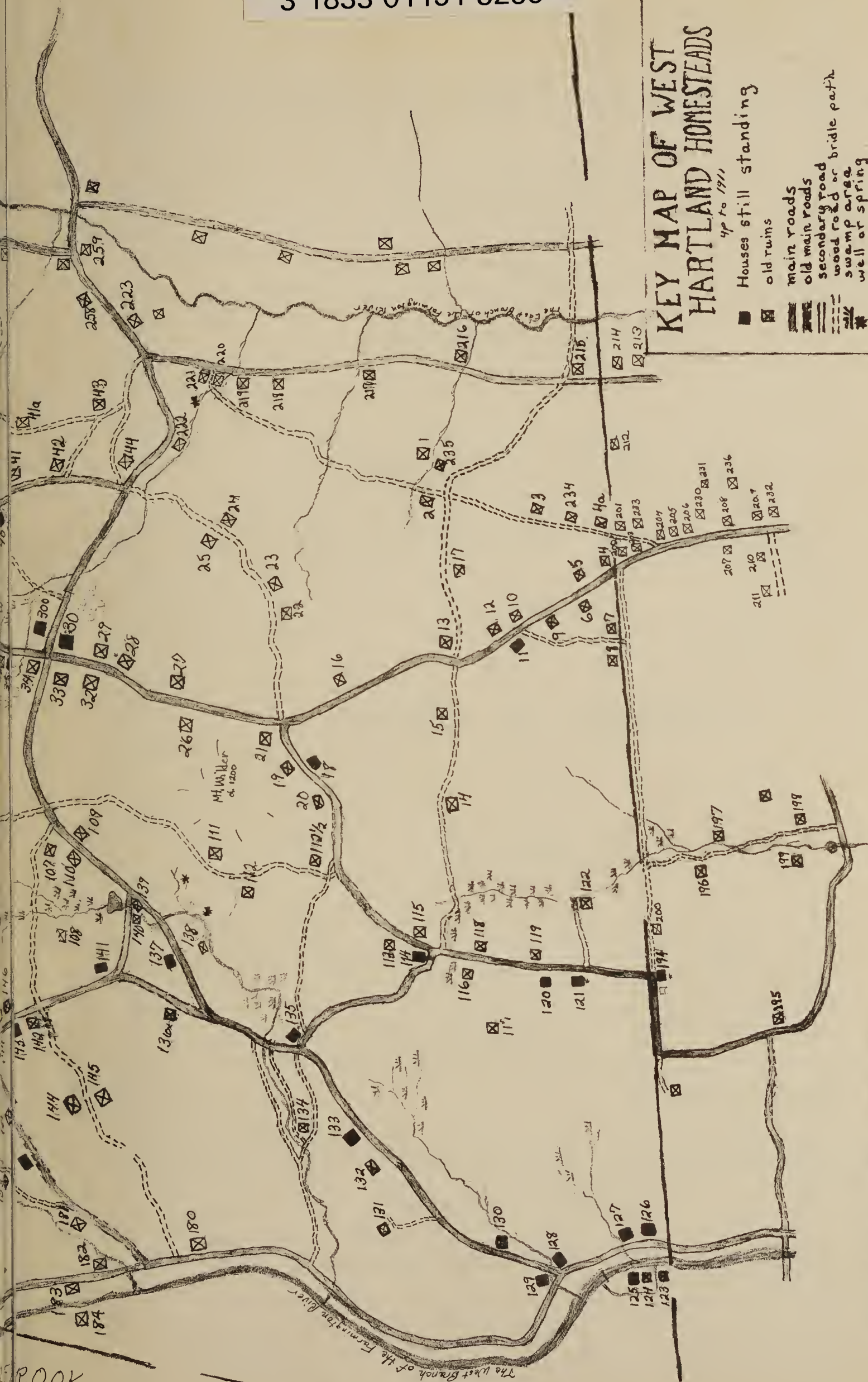
- Houses still standing
old ruins
main roads
old main roads
secondary road
wood road or bridle path
swamp area
well or spring

1 inch = approx. 76 rods

Revised and Drawn by David Ransom 1954
(based on Tiffany-Causle index map in State Library)

(based on Tiffany-Gaines index map in State Library)

BARKHAMSTED



HISTORY of HARTLAND

The 69th Town in
The Colony of Connecticut

Compiled by
Stanley A. Ransom



'Tis a rough land of earth and stone and tree
Where breathes no castled lord or cabined slave
Where thoughts and tongues and hands are bold and free
And friends will find a welcome, foes a grave;
And where none kneel, save when to Heaven they pray,
Nor even then, unless in their own way.

—Fitz-Greene Halleck

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THE HARTLAND BI-CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

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Dedication

To those hardy and courageous souls who first braved the perils and hardships of the wilderness to establish homes within the borders of Hartland, their descendants, and the myriad of those who have at some time called this place "home"; to all those, past and present, known and unknown, who have labored in the advancement of and contributed, in the 200 years of its corporate existence, to the spiritual, educational, civic and material welfare of our beloved town — this book is respectfully dedicated.



—Franz Kraus, Clinton, Studio

Stanley A. Ransom

STANLEY A. RANSOM

(By Charlotte S. Ransom)

Stanley Austin Ransom was born in West Granville, Mass., May 5th, 1897, the son of Edward and Sarah (Stillman) Ransom.

He attended the Granville and West Hartland elementary schools and the Gilbert School in Winsted. After serving in World War I with the rank of corporal, he became affiliated with the Wm. L. Gilbert Clock Co. of Winsted, and has been in their employ for over 40 years, now serving as Sales Manager of one division, and editor of their house-organ.

In 1920 he married Charlotte Sheldon of Winsted, and has a family of two sons and three daughters.

Establishing permanent residence in Hartland in 1935, he has served the Town of Hartland as a member of the School Board, Regional Representative, Justice of Peace, Trial Justice and since 1948 has been Judge of Probate for the District of Hartland.

An amateur artist, he has been active in local art circles and the promotion of other cultural pursuits.

He became intensely interested in local History and was instrumental in the formation of the Hartland Historical Society of which he is now president. This book is the result of his efforts in research, compiling, and writing most of the copy. Affiliated with many business and civic enterprises, he is a Corporator of the Mechancis Savings Bank in Winsted, President of the Associated Business Service, President of the Litchfield County Art Association, President of West Hartland Cemetery Association, Vice-President of the Union Agricultural Society, and a lay member of the Methodist Church.

He resides in West Hartland and is Vice-Chairman of the Hartland Bi-Centennial Committee, as well as Chairman of the Historical Committee.



—Courtesy Charles H. Gaines

David Northway Gaines

DAVID NORTHWAY GAINES

David Northway Gaines was born in East Hartland on June 22, 1854, the son of Lester K. and Mabel (Northway) Gaines. With the exception of two years spent in Waterbury, Connecticut, he lived in East Hartland all his life. He attended the First District School in East Hartland and in his early years followed the trade of house painter.

His political career began with his election as one of Hartland's representatives to the General Assembly in 1899. In 1912 he was elected Town Clerk of Hartland and continued in that office until 1934. Beginning in 1904 he was appointed Postmaster in East Hartland and continued in that capacity until reaching retirement age in 1940.

It was during the period of twenty-two years while serving as Town Clerk that he became interested in the early Land Records of Hartland and the genealogies of its early settlers. In collaboration with Correll H. Tiffany of West Hartland, maps were made showing the divisions and lots drawn by the original proprietors, in each division. Also maps of the entire town on which Key Numbers were placed to indicate the early homesteads and other sites were developed and these were eventually placed in the Connecticut State Library. Records of the conveyances and descriptions of the premises as they were sold from one individual to another were compiled and applied to the Key Numbers so that one could trace the ownership from the beginning to the present time. David N. Gaines concentrated on the East Mountain and North Hartland Hollow, while Correll H. Tiffany's efforts were devoted to the West Mountain and South Hartland Hollow.

In addition, Mr. Gaines spent many years of research in connection with the Hartland men who served in the Revolutionary and other wars. The list of those compiled for the Bunker Hill Day celebration of June 17, 1930 was largely the result of his study and research.

The history of the First Ecclesiastical Society was a subject which occupied much of his time and he assembled considerable data regarding the early ministers and various changes made to the church building.

On December 3, 1874, David N. Gaines married Fanny A. Brown of East Hartland and began living in the house previously owned by his father, Lester K. Gaines. Here he remained the rest of his life and the combination of Post Office, Town Clerk's Office and family farm made it a busy place. Four children were born to them; two died in infancy. His daughter Mabel died on October 19, 1899 at the age of 22; and his son, Charles H. Gaines, died on May 20, 1961, age 81.

For over 50 years David N. Gaines was sexton of the East Hartland Cemetery and was one of those instrumental in the rebuilding and beautification of the present grounds. He was one of the organizers and a life-long member of the present East Hartland Cemetery Association.

Unfortunately, the historical material which he assembled over a long period of years was never published but has been preserved in the form of note-books and manuscript form. Some of these have been placed in the Connecticut State Library but most of them eventually came into the possession of his son, the late Charles H. Gaines, who has

made them available to the writer for use in connection with this history. Without them it would have been impossible to do the necessary research in the time allotted. Credit has been given wherever these notes and other information has been used. The writer is deeply indebted to the late Charles H. Gaines for permission to use this historical data in connection with this work.

In his later years, David N. Gaines became familiarly known as "The Sage of the East Mountain". He was the subject of many newspaper articles describing his accumulation of local historical knowledge. The circle of his friends in the community was large and he was affectionately called "Uncle Dave" by those who knew him best. Those who came seeking information regarding the Hartland of an earlier day were rewarded with a cheerful and generous supply of all the information on the subject which he had in his possession, usually with a few anecdotes thrown in for good measure.

His wife died October 14, 1933, at the age of 80. David N. Gaines died September 26, 1941, at the age of 87. He is buried in the East Hartland Cemetery in the Gaines' Family Plot. One of the old millstones, from the mill of Titus Hayes and used to grind grain for the Revolutionary War Soldiers, with a suitable bronze plaque serves as a marker for his grave.

CHARLES H. GAINES

The sudden death of Charles H. Gaines on May 20, 1961, came as a distinct shock to his many friends in Hartland, Granby and other places. A member of the Historical Committee for Hartland's Bi-Centennial Celebration, his assistance and the generosity displayed in making available the use of the historical information gathered by his father, David N. Gaines, will long be remembered. It is with a sense of deep sorrow that we record his passing. It would have been a great pleasure for him to see this book in printed form and we regret that he did not live to see its accomplishment. Our deepest sympathy is extended to his widow, Florence C. Gaines.

PREFACE

It is, of course, impossible to fully record every major event which happened in the Town of Hartland over the last 200 years in a work of this scope. It has been necessary to condense wherever possible, but we have tried to include all of the interesting periods and places in describing the long hard road which the inhabitants trod from early wilderness to the superb highways of the present day.

No one knows better than I the inadequacies of this history. It is far from complete and leaves much to be desired. What it lacks in the way of polished prose, however, may be compensated to some extent by the fact that I do believe it does have the merit of accuracy. The information contained herein is based on original Town Records, Records of the Churches and other material from fugitive sources, the authenticity of which has been verified in each instance.

It has been necessary to include a number of items and articles written by others than myself. In each case proper credit has been given to the author or the source from which the material originated. It has been my task to compile and arrange these in the best manner possible.

The writer is under great obligations to a number of people who have assisted in making this history possible. The records and maps of David N. Gaines and Correll H. Tiffany have been consulted constantly. Charles H. Gaines of Granby has kindly loaned me the use of the David N. Gaines notes on Hartland, and Rev. Hollis M. French of Grantham, N.H., has kindly made available to the writer the Land Record notes of Correll H. Tiffany, and assisted in supplying other items of an historical nature.

In addition, the writer is especially indebted to the following who submitted old pictures, material for possible use; and were helpful in a number of ways:

Lewis S. Mills, Metropolitan District Commission, State Park and Forest Commission, Alice Emmons Parmelee, Irene V. Shepard, Mildred Nelson, Harold French, Laura M. Dickinson, Alice Cables Calabrese, Georgiana Feley Rebillard, Edith V. Miller, Olga Dean, Catherine Wright, Florence S. Ransom, Byron C. Stratton, Gertrude Shelley Osborn, Charles McDonough, Jerome and Mildred deForest, Anita Holt, Marsha Crunden Ransom, Rev. Herbert O. Kelsey, Ida J. Ransom, Fred Crunden, Stella Gorse, Judith Franzen Devlin, Rev. Stanley Dokken and most of all to my wife, Charlotte S. Ransom, who has done most of the typing, proof-reading, and borne the burden of the multitudinous details connected with publication.

There are many more historical subjects which should have been included in this history, but the lack of finances for additional pages made their omission mandatory.

This book is the result of a dream which began many years ago. Although much of my boyhood was spent in Hartland and I attended the old West Hartland Center School for some two years, it was not until I became a resident in 1935 that my interest developed in the local history of the Town and its early settlement and formation. Since that

time it has been my main ambition to see this material gathered into one book so that others might have an opportunity of knowing the background of the place in which they live. It has been my intention to write this in a manner all can understand and include some of the things that should interest them most.

If this history fulfills a long-felt want for a work of this kind, I will be more than amply repaid for the long hours spent in research, compiling and writing. The problems have been many. Financing has been a major obstacle and time has always been in short supply. In spite of this, by sheer perseverance we are making the dream of this book become a reality, and we hope you will enjoy it in the spirit in which it is written and forgive its imperfections.

West Hartland, Conn.

STANLEY A. RANSOM

June 15, 1961

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CHAPTER I

This Land of Ours

WHOEVER has made a leisurely journey over the area of some 22,300 acres now comprising the Town of Hartland must be impressed by the fact that it could never have been chosen by the early settlers as an utopia for agricultural purposes. The rock-ribbed hillsides offered little incentive to settlement and it taxes our imagination to comprehend how so many farms and homesteads were eventually carved out of the rough terrain and virgin forests which confronted the first inhabitants.

The Ice-Age and Glacial Period had not been kind to this section. Although thousands of years have elapsed, the evidence of this era is still visible in the clearly defined moraines, drumlins and eskers which the receding ice left in this locality. Eskers, which are embankments in form and composed of sand, gravel and other water-washed material, are the most numerous. (In East Hartland, about a mile south of the East Hartland church, is a large esker well-known to state geologists and called the "Windrow" by older generations.) The movement of ice left scant soil on the surface, but underneath the shallow crust a deep layer of granite having a schist harder than that of surrounding area.

The ice formed a deep valley through the center of this area and a stream, to be later named the East Branch of the Farmington River, pursued its placid course. The wooded hillsides on either side of the stream rose sharply for several hundred feet and emerged in rugged plateaus to be later named the East and West Mountains. On the west side a natural pond of some sixty acres lay surrounded by dense woods and marshy swamps.

Prior to the settlement of Windsor and Hartford in 1633, it is doubtful that any white man had ever set foot in this isolated region. There were, no doubt, trails along the edges of streams and from one mountain to the other which the Indians had used for untold centuries. There is no evidence of any permanent Indian settlement within the present borders of the town but that small bands used sections for summer encampments, hunting and fishing purposes is attested by the finding of artifacts in the river valley and a few other places. Although it is estimated that in 1633 there were about 3,000 Indians among the River Tribes around Windsor, Hartford and Wethersfield, only about 400 comprised the Tunxis tribe or Sepous who confined their habitations and hunting to the Tunxis (Farmington) River area some ten to fifteen miles west of the Quinni-tuk-et River (Connecticut). Into this wild, rugged woodland the Tunxis tribe would come over the trails made by red men and animals who for years had traveled from one stream to another in a



—Courtesy Lewis S. Mills

*Balanced rock located in East Hartland on ledge north of present
Connecticut Ski Trail*

single file. The forests were filled with game, and quail, partridge and even wild turkeys were in abundance. The streams and lakes were filled with fish and waterfowl were plentiful. Deer browsed in the open glades watered by springs or along the edges of lakes and ponds. Wolves howled to break the great white silences of winter; and the wildcat and panther pursued their prey.

Into this region the Indians came in the spring and camped beside the streams, sometimes planting corn in the more fertile spots, and hunting, fishing and preparing furs for the winter months. As a rule, the Tunxis was a peaceable tribe and lived unmolested by the River Tribes, but in deadly fear of raids from their enemies, the Mohawks to the West and the Pequots to the South. No one knows for how many years this form of Indian life had continued in these rugged hills and wooded valleys but the encroachment of settlements along the Big or Connecticut River at Windsor, Hartford and Wethersfield, began a new era which would eventually spell disaster for all the Indians of New England.

It began when William Holmes, from Plymouth Colony, sailed up the River to a point above the Dutch Fort, now called Hartford, and erected a trading post at the confluence of the Farmington and Connecticut Rivers, now called Windsor. With him he brought the great Sachem of the entire region, Sequassen, who had taken refuge among the Narragansetts as an exile because of the region having been recently conquered by the Pequots.

Sequassen, claiming authority through his restoration as Sachem of all the River Tribes, sold land "without stint or hesitation" to the residents of the new settlements, deeding to them all of the land westward, including the territory of the Tunxis and the land which now comprises Hartland, as far west as the country of the Mohawks. The fact that up to that time, no surveys had ever been made, the deeds were vague in description with the result that the same land was sold over and over, in some instances as many as six or seven times. These ancient deeds given by Sequassen and other Sachems later became the foundation for claims by Hartford and Windsor to these "Western Lands", resulting many years later in the area now comprising the Town of Hartland being given to a group of Hartford taxpayers or Proprietors, as they were then called, and who shared in the amount of land acquired in proportion to the amount they (or their heirs) owned at that time (1720) in the Town of Hartford.

The General Court of the Colony of Connecticut, on January 26, 1686, gave a grant of land to the Towns of Hartford and Windsor. This was a large tract referred to at that time as "Western Lands." It was described as being situated "on the north of Woodbury and Matatock (Waterbury) and on the west of Farmington and Simsbury, to the Massachusetts' line north, and to run west to the Housatunnuck River (provided it be not, or part of it, formerly granted to any particular persons) to make a plantation or villages thereon."

April of the same year marked the arrival in Boston of Sir Edmund Andros as Governor-in-chief of New England, and his subsequent demand for the surrender of Connecticut's Charter, terminating in the Charter Oak episode of October 1687. Sir Edmund left the New England scene in 1689, and immediately there arose a bitter controversy between the Colony and the Towns of Hartford and Windsor over the validity of their claims to the "Western Lands." It was the contention of the Colony that the grant had been made to the Towns to hold the land for the Governor and Company "until those times of trouble and danger should be past; but not as their property." The Towns, however, would not relinquish their claims but persisted in their demands that it was granted to them for settlement; and in the meantime they continued to locate in some of the territory and buy and sell parcels of the land. In fact, the Township of Litchfield, originally called New Bantam, was laid out and began settlement about 1717. Other parts of the area were being surveyed while the controversy continued.

The General Court finally interfered with the activities of the Towns and in 1724, a petition was presented to that body requesting an amicable settlement of the long dispute. The memorial was signed by Governor Talcott, Matthew Allyn and Roger Wolcott. A committee was appointed to investigate the Hartford and Windsor claims and named as members were James Wadsworth, John and Hezekiah Brainard. This committee reported two years later after which the General Court, under date of May 26, 1726, adopted a resolution which provided that the lands in dispute should be divided between the Colony and the two Towns. By the terms of this resolution the division was made as follows:

Hartford and Windsor were given the eastern portion which now comprises the area occupied by the towns of Hartland, Colebrook, Barkhamsted, Winchester, Torrington, New Hartford and Harwinton, estimated at that time to contain about 291,806 acres. The Colony was to have the western portion containing the area occupied by the present towns of Norfolk, Goshen, North Canaan, Canaan, Cornwall, Warren and about two-thirds of Kent.

On May 29, 1729, the Governor and Company gave a patent of the eastern division of this land to the Towns of Hartford and Windsor with ratification being completed on August 30, 1729 thus bringing an end to the long controversy which had its beginning in 1689.

The proprietors of Hartford and Windsor made another division of the land allotted to them and by a deed of partition executed February 11, 1732, Hartford received a patent for four parcels situated in this tract which covers the area now occupied by the Towns of Hartland, Winchester and New Hartford; the remainder being given to the proprietors of Windsor.

Although the year was now 1732, it was agreed that the division be made, so far as tract now known as Hartland was concerned, on the basis of the inhabitants or proprietors of Hartford (or their heirs) whose names appeared on the Hartford Tax list of 1720 be given an amount of land in this new tract in proportion to the amount of tax paid in relation to Hartford's Grand List for that year. When it became known in 1729 that the proprietors of Hartford on record for the year 1720 had individual rights in what had previously been called "Western Land," there were many who began to "anticipate their windfall" by selling or conveying their rights without ever having had an opportunity of inspection. Others let it slip through their fingers and many acquired more to add to their original holdings.

In May, 1733, the General Court or Assembly, then in session, decreed that this tract of land be named HART(FORD)LAND, because owned by Hartford men, and the name soon became shortened and contracted to HARTLAND.

Thus, after years of Indian occupation, and disputation of Colonial and Town ownership, there came into legal being this little strip of earth we affectionately call, "This Land of Ours".

CHAPTER II

The Proprietors

When the taxpayers of Hartford whose names appeared on Hartford's Tax List of 1720 learned that they were to be given land in the new territory called Hartland, they organized into a mutual association which they named "Proprietors of Hartland". Their number at the time including their heirs totalled 67. At their first meeting they appointed a committee to make a survey of what was later to be the first division. This first division was laid out through the center of the town and was 1½ miles 16 rods wide. This was not divided into tiers as were the following divisions but each Proprietor was given land in proportion to the amount of their Hartford Tax List as of 1720. Samuel Welles, Joseph Cowles and Epaphras Sheldon were appointed as a committee to lay out this division and Samuel Messenger was surveyor.

In this first division, no provision was made for the minister's or parsonage lots. It is apparent that at this early date they must have recognized that the meeting houses would eventually be built on the East and West mountains. In each division, however, they did allow for a sufficient amount of land to be later used for highway purposes.

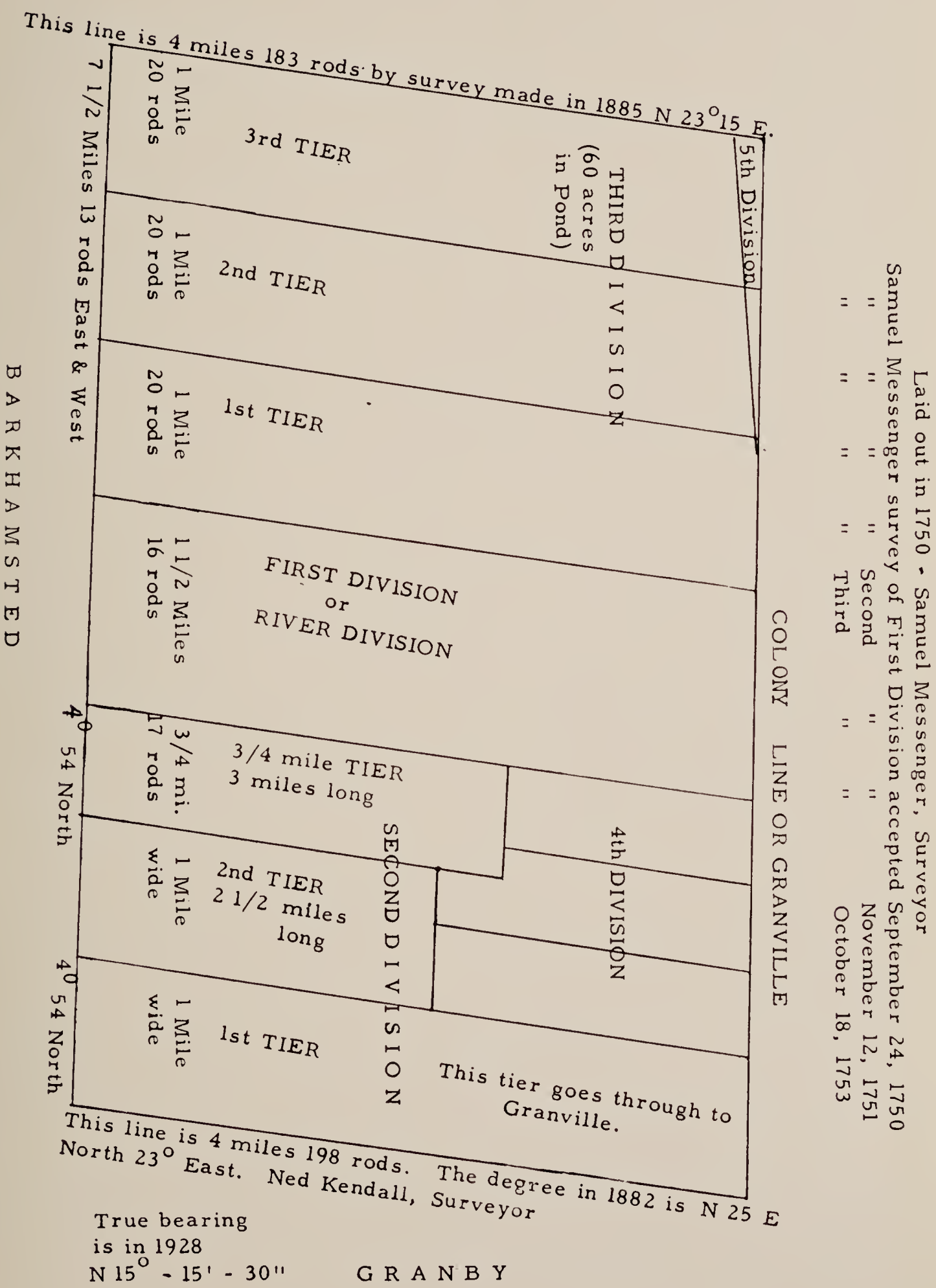
The Proprietors kept a record of their activities and this book is now in the office of Hartland's Town Clerk. It is constructed of silk parchment and is still in good condition. Joseph Talcott was the Proprietor's clerk for a number of years and was followed later by John Austin. The following is a list of the original Proprietors together with a record of the divisions and dates on which the rights were drawn and the divisions laid out in each drawing. It is apparent that selection was made by putting the names into a hat, so to speak, and drawing by lot so that there would be no discrimination or opportunity for choice to be made by any individual:

LIST OF ORIGINAL PROPRIETORS OF HARTLAND AND THE
INDEX LOCATION OF THEIR VARIOUS LOTS

Name of Proprietor	Location by Divisions:				
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
	L	T L	T L	T L	L
	L	T L	T L	T L	L
Arnold, Nathaniel	46	1st, 3	3rd, 47	3rd, 51	
Austin, John (heirs)	2	3rd, 43	3rd, 41	1st, 4	

Name of Proprietor	Location by Divisions:				
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Ballard, Humphrey (heirs)	29	3rd, 35	3rd, 37	1st, 1,2	
Barnard, Ebenezer	27	1st, 2	2nd, 24		
Benjamin, Samuel (heirs)	North				
Bigelow, Jonathan (heirs)	16	1st, 10	1st, 3	1st, 19	
Bigelow, Timothy (heirs)	38	2nd, 38	1st, 5	3rd, 52	
Brace, Henry	36	2nd, 40	2nd, 33	3rd, 43	
Burnham, John (heirs)	45	1st, 7	2nd, 29	1st, 13	
Burnham, Michael	37	3rd, 41	3rd, 44		
Burnham, William (with John Moody)	23	2nd, 27	3rd, 39	2nd, 40	
Cadwell, Samuel (heirs)	11	3rd, 45	2nd, 21	2nd, 34	
Cowles, Joseph	19	3rd, 42	3rd, 45	1st, 16	
Cowles, Timothy	19	3rd, 42	3rd, 45	1st, 16	
Day, John	8	2nd, 37	1st, 4	1st, 11	
Dodd, Benjamin	47	1st, 24	2nd, 22	1st, 5	
Dodd, Edward	47	1st, 24	2nd, 22	1st, 5	
Ensign Eleazer (heir of Thomas)			3rd, N		
Ensign, James, Jr. (heir of Jonathan)		1st, 5	1st, 11	1st, 21	
Ensign, Jonathan (heirs in 2nd D)	9	1st, 5	1st, 11	1st, 21	
Ensign, Thomas' (heirs)	17	1st, 1	1st, 16	1st, 28*	
Farnsworth, Joseph (heirs)	31	1st, 6	1st, 6		
Flagg, Samuel	27	1st, 2	2nd, 24	1st, 15	
Forbes, John	26	1st, 17	3rd, 42	1st, 17	
Goodwin, Samuel (heirs)	35	3rd, 48	3rd, 43	2nd, 35	
Griswold, Caleb	41	3rd, 50	3rd, 48	1st, 12	
Hills, Benjamin Jun.	20	2nd, 36	3rd, 36	2nd, 34	
Hinsdale, Isaac (with John Moody)	23	2nd, 27	3rd, 39		
Hooker, Thomas	44	1st, 4	2nd, 30	1st, 20	
Jones, Nathaniel	26	1st, 17	3rd, 42	1st, 24	
Judd, Thomas (with J. Moody in 1st)	23	2nd, 27	3rd, 39	2nd, 37	
Kendall, John	**	1st, 13	2nd, 24		
Loring, Jonathan	5	1st, 8	3rd, 40	1st, 29	
Mather, Joseph	21	2nd, 33	1st, 2	1st, 24	
Moody, John	23	2nd, 27	1st, 2	2nd, 39	
Morrison, Dr. Norman	43	3rd, 44	3rd, 35	1st, 1	
Olcott, Thomas	49	1st, 18	1st, 1	1st, 26	
Olcott, Timothy	1	2nd, 30	2nd, 28	2nd, 42	
Olmstead, Joseph (heirs)	7	1st, 15	1st, 13	1st, 8	
Olmstead, Nehemiah		1st, 15	1st, 13	3rd, 53	
Pitkin, William Esq.	40	1st, 20	2nd, 27	1st, 18	
Potwin, John	34	1st, 23	3rd, 49	1st, 3	
Pratt, William	33	1st, 12	2nd, 34	1st, 23	

MAP SHOWING LOCATION OF TIERS AND DIVISIONS
of HARTLAND as laid out in 1750-1-2-3-4



HHS-3

Map showing location of tiers and divisions laid out in (1750-1-2-3-4)

Location by divisions:				
Roberts, Joseph	25	2nd, 34	3rd, 38	
Sedgwick, Jonathan	32	1st, 11	2nd, 24	
Seymour, Timothy (heirs)	22	1st, 25	2nd, 26	
Sheldon, Capt. John (heirs)	18	3rd, 49	1st, 15	3rd, 50
Shepard, John	14	1st, 16	1st, 14	3rd, 49
Shepard, Samuel	42	1st, 16	1st, 14	3rd, 49
Steele, Daniel	13	1st, 22	2nd, 32	
Talcott, Hon. Joseph (heirs)	24	3rd, 47	1st, 18	1st, 30
Treadway, Thomas (heirs)	10	2nd, 39	1st, 8	1st, 9
Wadsworth, Joseph Jun.	15	1st, 21	1st, 7	1st, 14
Wadsworth, Thomas (heirs)	6	1st, 26	3rd, 46	2nd, 38
Warner, Abraham	31	1st, 9	2nd, 31	3rd, 48
Warren, Thomas	48	1st, 9	2nd, 31	3rd, 43
Webster, Robert	46	1st, 3	3rd, 47	3rd, 51
Welles, Ebenezer (heirs)	39	3rd, 46	2nd, 19	1st, 25
Welles, Samuel (heirs)	1	2nd, 30	2nd, 28	1st, 10
Whiting, John	28	2nd, 29	1st, 9	1st, 1
Whiting, Joseph	4	2nd, 32	1st, 12	2nd, 37
Williams, Eunice	14	1st, 14	1st, 10	2nd, 34
Wilson, John	24	3rd, 47	1st, 18	2nd, 41
Woodbridge, Samuel (heirs)	30	2nd, 31	2nd, 20	1st, 7
Woodbridge, Rev. Samuel	12			
Woodbridge, Rev. Mr. Timothy		1st, 19	2nd, 35	3rd, 46
Wyllys, George Esq.	3	2nd, 28	2nd, 23	1st, 24

The FIRST DIVISION was made May 15, 1750—The proprietors were inhabitants of HARTFORD whose names appeared on the Tax Lists of 1720, or their heirs.

SECOND DIVISION rights were drawn September 24th, 1750.

THIRD DIVISION was laid out August, 1750.

FOURTH DIVISION was taken from common lands, and laid out in May, 1782.

FIFTH DIVISION resulted from settlement of a dispute over boundary lines with the Town of Granville, Massachusetts, and this land formerly claimed by Granville was divided among HARTLAND proprietors in the survey of April 20, 1805.

The first three divisions were made in the year 1750. The second division which covered the Southern half and Northeast corner of the East mountain provided for parsonage and minister's lots together with necessary land for highways.

The third division which contained all of the land on the West mountain was divided into three tiers each one mile 20 rods in width and extended in approximately straight lines from South to North.

In drawing the lots for the third tier, lot #47 which was drawn in the name of Robert Webster and heirs fell in the pond. In order to compensate Robert Webster and his heirs for the land to which he was entitled, the surveyors added 60 acres to this lot to allow for the pond in

it. The Proprietors book, page 14, makes the following note: "There is added to this lot to allow for the pond in it and what of land is over-plus, reserved for the use of the Proprietor's 60 acres." It is at this point that the waters of Hartland Pond were forever to become the property of the Town of Hartland and the fact that the land given Robert Webster and his heirs was taken from extra land reserved for the use of all the Proprietors makes it mandatory that all residents of Hartland and their lineal descendants have the right of access and use of the pond. This is why it is necessary for the Town of Hartland to maintain a right of way to the pond at all times.

In the second and third divisions, provisions were made for parsonage and minister's lots so that ecclesiastical societies could be formed at some future time and would have these lots available.

It was not until 1782 that the fourth division was laid out and this, of course, was long after Hartland had been settled and incorporated as a town. This fourth division of the common or undivided land was laid out by Eleazer Ensign, Major Uriel Holmes and Col. Benjamin Hutchins, a committee of the Proprietors appointed for this purpose. Some of them were given extra land in payment for their services on this committee.

The fifth division was the result of a boundary dispute with the town of Granville as previously recorded.

In addition to the survey to lay out the divisions and ascertain the exact acreage of each lot, it was necessary to lay out highways through the several sections. Thomas Giddings, Uriel Holmes and Phineas Kingsbury were named by the Proprietors as a committee to lay out these highways. (Proprietors Book, Page 16.) In all probability the highways were determined from paths or rough trails already in existence. Due to their limited facilities and equipment for building roads, the paths of least resistance were often followed. As late as November, 1772, we find them making the following note in connection with the lay-out of a new highway: "Said highway to cover path as mentioned above unless by turning path it can be made better."

The Proprietors continued in existence until September 18, 1815. During that time Sterling G. Bushnell had succeeded John Austin as clerk. Timothy Coe was clerk of the last meeting as mentioned above.

The first deed given by the Proprietors is dated April 28, 1733 from Samuel Barnard to Captain Caleb Williamson of Hartland described as 95 acres of Western lands. The last deed is dated May 24, 1762 and is for land sold by Joseph Talcott, Mathew Talcott, Abigail Wadsworth and Moses Caldwell to Daniel and Jerusha Lathrop. (Proprietors Book Page 329.)

Few of the Proprietors settled in Hartland but as soon as their lots and acreage had been established, they began to sell their holdings to prospective settlers and promoters. In 1720 one of the largest property holders and tax payers in Hartford was Dr. Norman Morrison. When the Town was laid out in 1750-1-2-3, Morrison had about 1100 acres in Hartland which cost him 310£, 12 shillings, the result of his drawn lots and additional purchases.

Dr. Morrison's land on the West mountain eventually became known as the Morrison Hill Hunting Grounds. He also did a great deal to get Hartland on the map, from 1730 to 1752. Previously, he had been instrumental in selecting the name for the town in 1733. He was a surgeon in King George's War, (1744-8) his service being in 1746 at Louisburg, Nova Scotia. No trace of him is found in Hartland Records after 1753-1754. He died April 9, 1761.

By 1750 much of the land in Hartland had changed hands several times but up to this point no permanent settlement had been made within its boundaries. It was still in a state of primeval forest with only a limited means of access to the owners and surveyors.

In the first division which was accepted September 24, 1750, there is a provision made between lots #16 and #17 for John Kendall on his improvement which is given as approximately 35 acres. This would indicate that at that time John Kendall was already on the scene and living on the land he had appropriated by "Squatters Rights" located in what was later to become Hartland Hollow.

The Proprietors having finished their preliminary surveys and divisions, the territory was by 1750 ready for those courageous souls who wished to establish a settlement in the new wilderness. Within a short time many came into the territory from Lyme, Haddam, Durham and other parts of the State. Just what prompted their removal from towns which were already established into the rough and rugged terrain of Hartland will always remain a mystery.

CHAPTER III

The Early Settlers

A man by the name of John Kendall about whom little is known has the distinction of being named the first white man to live in the Hartland wilderness of the 1750's, although he cannot be considered as the first settler. The "*Gazeteer of the State of Connecticut and Rhode Island*" published by John C. Pease and Jonathan Niles under date of 1819 states:

"John Kendall who removed from Lancaster in Massachusetts in the Spring of 1753 was the first settler. He located on a tract of land in the great valley on the west side of the Farmington River."

Barber in his "*Connecticut Historical Collections*" states:

"The first person who lived in the town was John Kendall who, being in debt, fled from Granby and, to get out of the way of his creditors, located himself in Hartland Hollow on the West Bank of the branch of the Farmington River. Here he made himself a hut with slabs which floated down-stream from Granville, Mass. This was in 1753. While here, Kendall's wife bore a pair of twin daughters, the first white female children born in the town."

Whatever may be the truth of these versions, it is a generally accepted fact that he built a cabin in Hartland Hollow, the location being in the vicinity of the house in Hartland Hollow last owned and occupied by Augustin Feley and family (Key H.H.-223). Tradition states that he stayed only one year and left for fear of the Indians. The proprietors, however, made consideration for him in laying out the First Division as his "improvement" is listed, although he was not one of the original proprietors.

Thomas Giddings, who came from Lyme, June 12, 1754, has the distinction of being the first "monarch" settler in the area which a few years later was to become the town of Hartland. The word "monarch" in this case means that he was subject to the laws of the King and Colony, although settling in a wilderness without local civic government. For easy identification, the site of his original location is now south of Ringerman Hill Road (EH-Key 27). His brother, Joshua Giddings, also of Lyme, came in 1756 and located in the same section. Joshua Giddings had three sons, John, Joshua and Benjamin. John was the first white male child born in Hartland.

Beginning in 1762 Thomas Giddings was elected a Selectman for three years in succession. He became one of the town's leading citizens and was a Deacon of the First Ecclesiastical Society for many years. He is buried in the East Hartland Cemetery, and on the marble slab marking his grave is the following inscription:

"In memory of Dea. Thomas Giddings, the first residing inhabitant of Hartland; he came into town June 12, 1754. Died May 24, 1790, aged 67 years. We are strangers and pilgrims on the earth, as were all our fathers."



—Courtesy Shelburne Museum, Inc.

Chest belonging to Deacon Thomas Giddings with family record inscribed on marble top. Chest now in possession of Shelburne Museum, Inc., Shelburne, Vermont.

As an interesting sidelight, in a recent trip to the Shelburne Museum in Shelburne, Vermont, the writer discovered a chest, originally belonging to Deacon Thomas Giddings, included in the furnishings of the Stagecoach Inn. The chest is unique in the fact that the top is of marble inlaid in black with a record of the births and deaths of Deacon Thomas Giddings' family. Information as to how and when the chest was acquired by the Museum is unavailable, but it appears that the chest was made in Hartland by some unknown cabinet maker and the inscriptions

applied by some unique method which is unfamiliar even to those who are acquainted with this type of work.

Simon Baxter came from Hebron, Connecticut in 1755 and first settled in the east part of the town. The first town meeting of July 14, 1761 was held at his home, which was located on what is now known as Old Route 20 (EH-Key 63). Within the next two years he had removed to the Center Hill section of the West Mountain. He was a member of the Church of England and did not affiliate with the First Ecclesiastical Society. He was active in the early days as a town official but his tory activities during the Revolutionary War period became so violent that he was confined to Newgate Prison for the duration. When released, he removed to Canada and as a reward for his support of England's cause, was given by the "Crown of England" a tract of some 5,000 acres of land in Norton, Nova Scotia. (The story of his life and activities would require a complete volume.)

Consider Tiffany of East Haddam, Conn., settled on the West Mountain in 1760. Also, a member of the Church of England, he became active in expressing tory sympathies during the Revolutionary War period but never of a violent nature. As a result, he was placed in charge of the local "Committee on Safety" who confined him to the boundaries of his farm on Center Hill. An elm tree planted by him at that time grew to be the second largest tree in the State of Connecticut, and later became known as the "Tiffany Elm". This tree, exceeded only in size by the Wethersfield Elm, grew to such proportions that it shaded over one acre of ground. It was destroyed by the Dutch Elm disease and had fallen to the ground about 1950.

After being confined for fifteen months, an effort was made for his release and he wrote the following letter (in part) to the committee having him in charge and under guard:

"Mr. Ensign: I understand that the committee are about to release me, being ashamed of their depriving me of that liberty as they did, fifteen months ago. I can answer the pretended committee that I never did anything that I am sorry for. More than that, I have done too much in favor of the United States, against genuine reason and the dictates of conscience and the unerring Scriptures, which error I am unfeigned sorry for.—Sir, I suppose there may be two reasons that induce the committee to release me without asking them. The first a guilty conscience for abusing me without a cause, the second to dismiss me so that I can be drafted. I assure you and all men that I never intend to go to the camps. If I do, I intend to fight for that side I think I ought to—therefore, please so use your endeavors that I may remain happy as I now am, and you will oblige,

Your old friend,

CONSIDER TIFFANY, March 8, 1780."

Consider Tiffany died June 19, 1796, age 63, and is buried in the Old West Hartland Cemetery. Doubtless there were other tories in Hartland during this period, but the stories of Baxter and Tiffany are the only ones which survived.



—Courtesy Hartland Historical Society

The Tiffany Elm As It Appeared in the 1930's

Other early settlers were:

Moses Cowdrey, who came from East Haddam in 1756, settling in the Northeast District of Hartland.

Jonas Wilder, who came from East Haddam in 1760 and settled on the West Mountain in the Center Hill section.

Thomas Beman of Simsbury also came in 1760, settling in East Hartland.

Daniel Ensign of Hartford came in 1761.

Others included Josiah and Stephan Bushnell from Saybrook; Phineas Kingsbury; Nehemiah Andrews; Reuben Burnham from East Hartford; and Uriel Holmes of East Haddam. These are but a few of those who had settled by May of 1761.

Many others who settled early are worthy of special mention, but space does not permit their inclusion at this time. In fact, it has been possible to list only the high-lights of the few described.

Simon Baxter and Joseph Taylor were apparently instrumental in organizing and persuading the settlers to petition the General Court for incorporation as an individual town. The memorial was presented and in due course the General Court passed the following resolution:

“From the Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut,
from May 1757 to March 1762, inclusive.

Page 558, Vol. XI

“(May, 1761)—Upon the memorial of Joseph Taylor and Simon Baxter and others, all inhabitants of the township of Hartland in the county of Litchfield shewing to this Assembly that there hath already settled in said township and are now therein resident the number of thirty-seven families, and about seven more families coming to settle therein very soon, and now dwelling in the limits of the same the number of two hundred and twelve persons; praying this Assembly to grant to the memorialists and their successors such privileges for the well governing the inhabitants thereof as other towns in this Colony now have and do enjoy; as per memorial on file, etc.:

“Resolved by this Assembly, that the memorialists inhabitants of said Hartland be and they are hereby made and created an entire town by the name of the Town of Hartland; and this assembly do also grant said town of Hartland all such rights, powers, privileges and immunities as any other towns in this colony now have and do enjoy, and that Messrs. Joseph Taylor and Simon Baxter, both of said town, be and they are hereby appointed and impowered to give due warning and notice to all the inhabitants of said town to meet at some suitable place in said town on the second Tuesday of July next, to choose and elect all such town officers for the current year until December next, as other towns in this Colony by law have right to choose and appoint, and then proceed as such other towns are by law enable to do.”

The first Town Meeting was held at the house of Simon Baxter, as there was no meeting house, school-house or other public building in the town at that time. Joshua Giddings was chosen moderator, and Joseph Gilbert, town clerk. The selectmen chosen were Joshua Giddings,

Nehemiah Andrews and Simon Baxter, with Moses Caldwell for constable. They were now a full-fledged body politic and corporate, being the 69th Town so incorporated in the Colony of Connecticut, and were included in the County of Litchfield.

The first year seems to have been uneventful, but 1763 brought local political problems resulting in an additional memorial to the General Court with the reply of that august body contained in the following resolution:

“From the Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut
from May 1762-1767, Vol. XII, Page 58

“(May 1763)—Upon the memorial of the inhabitants of the town of Hartland in the county of Litchfield, representing that at a town meeting warned and held in said Hartland on the first Monday of December last, they proceeded to the choice of a moderator, a clerk and other town officers; that afterwards objections by a party of said inhabitants were made to the legality of said meeting and officers chosen therein, and the said objectors procured the warning of another town-meeting, which was held at said Hartland on the 21st day of the same December, when and where they proceeded and made choice of another set of town officers, all which officers chosen first and last were sworn as the law directs, by means whereof confusion and discord hath happened and the affairs of said town are perplexed, etc: praying that all the doings of said inhabitants in both of said meetings may be annulled and made void, etc.: Resolved by this Assembly, and it is hereby decreed, that all the votes and doings pretended to be passed and recorded as the acts of the said town at either of said meetings shall be and they are hereby declared null and void. And William Wolcott, Esqr., of Windsor, is hereby appointed and fully empowered, to warn a meeting of all the inhabitants of said town to be attended at the house of Thomas Giddings in said town, at such time as the said Wolcott shall appoint, at which time and place he is to lead the inhabitants in said meeting who by law have a right to vote to the choice of a town-clerk and such other town officers as are needful and by law required, and to such other votes as may be proper and necessary for the ordering the affairs and business of said inhabitants.”

In accordance with the instructions of the General Court the Town Meeting was duly warned and held on July 13th, 1763. Thomas Giddings, Nehemiah Andrews and Josiah Bushnell were chosen as the selectmen. No doubt this was an object lesson which proved to their advantage, as we hear no more of similar confusion thereafter.

Uriel Holmes arrived from East Haddam before 1767, as he was elected a selectman in the town meeting of December 25th, 1766. Uriel Holmes was probably one of the greatest promoters of the time. He is the one who built the first house on Hartland Green now commonly known as “The 1776 House”. Within a short time he bought the Saw and Grist Mills in Hartland Hollow originally owned by Samuel Benjamin. The early land records indicate few farms in East Hartland and the North Hollow section which at one time or another were not in

possession of Uriel Holmes. In addition to this, he was a great speculator in Western lands. For many years he served as a selectman and on many occasions he was both selectman and town clerk. He became a very prominent citizen and was commissioned a Colonel in the Revolutionary War. Also he represented the town in 36 sessions of the General Court, or later, Legislature. Colonel Uriel Holmes died November 6, 1809, age 68, and his only son, Uriel, Jr., a lawyer and Judge of the Superior Court of Litchfield County had all of his estate. The Judge was killed in New Hartford when his horse ran away and he was thrown from the wagon.

Within a few short years after the town was incorporated, the Revolutionary War brought a long season of hardship and sacrifice. The military history of 359 men who served in the Continental Army during this period is given in another chapter. The Grist Mills in Hartland Hollow were turned over to Titus Hayes, and he was recalled from the Army to operate them for the benefit of the encamped soldiers. Patriotism was uppermost in the minds of Hartland Citizens as is evidenced by the following vote, taken at a town meeting held on March 1st, 1775:

“Voted, That the town will hear read what the Continental Congress did in their Association,—This meeting being sensible that the liberty of every freeborn American is most atrociously invaded, and having duly considered how the Association of the Continental Congress is most happily concerted to relieve our fears, to recover and preserve uninjured our invaded rights and privileges—we heartily approve of and acquiesce in it, and will to our utmost faithfully adhere to and observe the same, and acknowledge to our worthy delegates who attended that Congress, that we have a most grateful sense of the service they have done us and our country in the wise and noble resolutions they adopted.”

The War with George the 3rd proved to be a long one, and the tor-ies in their midst caused considerable concern. To add to their misfortunes, an epidemic of small-pox visited them at this time.

Dr. Jeremiah Emmons who came from East Haddam a few years previously, had settled in East Hartland to become their first doctor. The scourge of small-pox was not new for it had its yearly outbreaks in most every other town in the colony. The matter of inoculation, however, was just coming into practice and there were some who doubted the effectiveness of this system. The only way to settle the matter was to have a town meeting, which they did on February 3, 1783, at which time the following votes were registered:

“Voted in Town Meeting that the enocluation for the Small Pox might be set up in this Town.

“Voted that Dr. Emmons liberty to build a house at the end of the $\frac{3}{4}$ Tier of lots on the highway West of Mr. Aaron Bushes for to have the Small Pox in.

“Voted that the Selectmen of this Town give directions what restrictions those that take the infection for the Small Pox should be under.”

Dr. Jeremiah Emmons was given permission to establish a sort of isolation hospital. This was located north of old Route 20 (EH-Key

#58). The notebook of David N. Gaines states "There were three deaths here, and the bodies were buried northeast of the house. The house must have disappeared many years ago. The C.C.C. boys built a gravel road, a bridge and fire-places on the Pox-house lot in the summer of 1934."

The Revolutionary War eventually came to an end, and the small-pox epidemic ceased. The inhabitants were at the beginning of a new era with a new government, a new form of money and a brighter outlook on life in general. They returned to their labors with renewed vigor; the clearing of the land began in earnest, and the mills of North Hartland Hollow ran from dawn till dark. Additional families moved into the town and settled. Those who were already established were building stone-walls, planting orchards, raising live-stock, but always finding time to look after the affairs of the Ecclesiastical Societies which had been established on both mountains. Most of the school districts had been set off. Sunday, however, was still considered a day of rest, with the necessity of attending divine service.

Land was in great demand, and during this period many exchanges of property took place between the local residents. Within a short time farms were developed into sizeable acreage of meadow and pasture lands. The roads had been improved to the point where they were passable for the conveyances in use. The population was on the increase and in the humble opinion of many, Providence had begun at last to smile upon them.

When the town was incorporated in 1761, it was placed in the collection of towns comprising Litchfield County. The roads between Hartland and Litchfield were in such condition that it wrought a hardship for those inhabitants who were forced to visit the county seat. A petition was made to have the town included in Hartford County and this was granted in 1795. The townspeople considered this to be of great benefit to them.

With peace and plenty smiling on the land, life might have been a pleasant pursuit even among the granite boulders of the East and West Mountains. Tidings from the West, however, brought back by relatives of some who had ventured as far as the Ohio, caused the spirit of discontent to fall like a cloud shadow across the sunny fields and the inhabitants who tilled them. The pioneer spirit still prevailed within their rugged souls; many threw down their hoes and looked with longing eyes toward the brilliant sunset as it appeared on the western horizon.

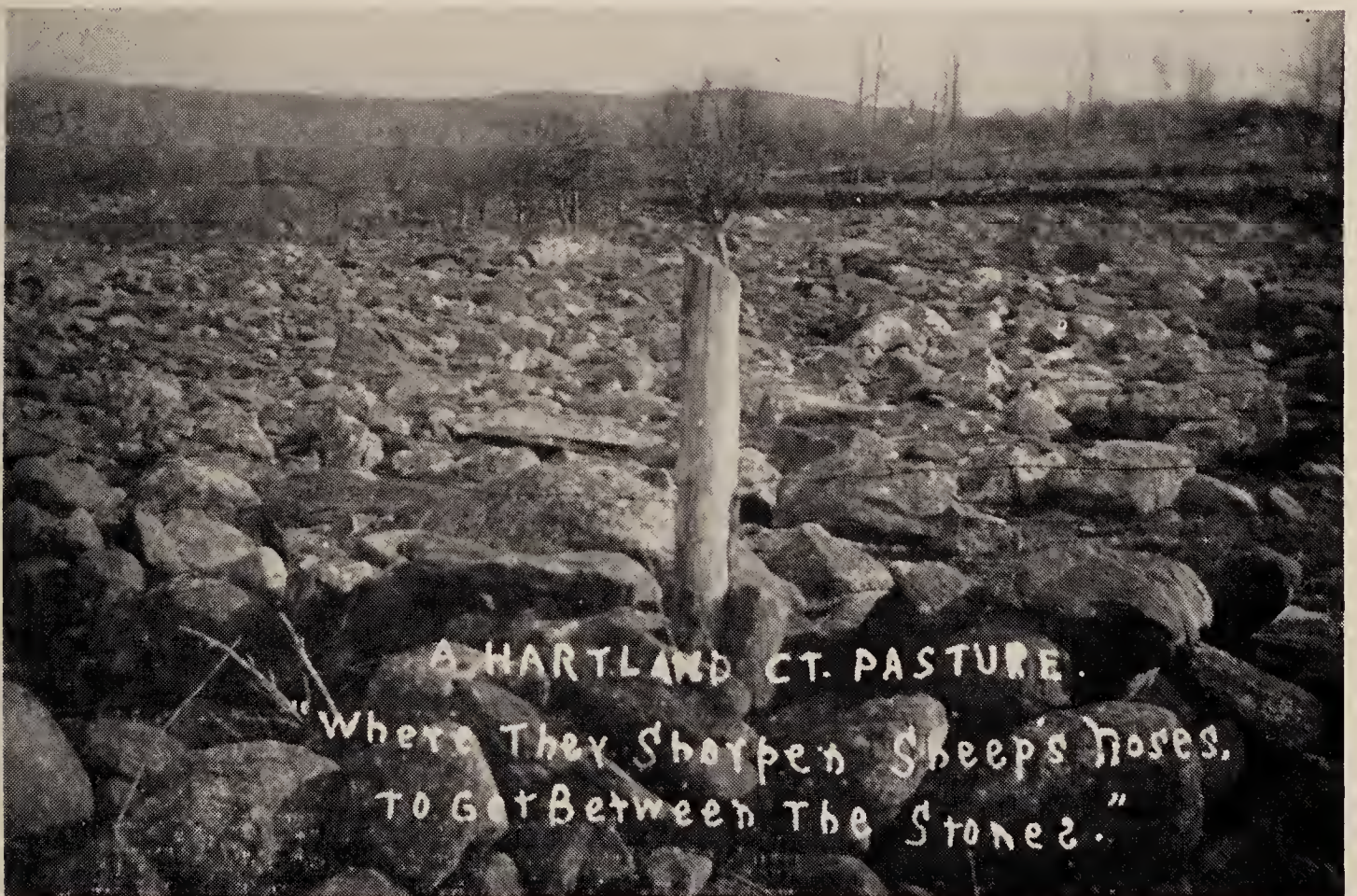
CHAPTER IV

Over The Years

(FROM 1800 TO 1900)

By 1800 Hartland had reached the peak of the population it has so far attained, a total of 1318, men, women and children. It was no longer the frontier town of the 1760's. Churches, schools, farms, mills and a civic local government had been firmly established. Shops of the local craftsmen were supplying the community with wares which they could not produce themselves. The frontier had been pushed farther and farther West and was then in the newly explored regions of Ohio.

There is little doubt that many of those who had spent the best part of their lives in trying to develop the rugged Hartland terrain into tillable farms had become disillusioned and discouraged with their lot.



—Courtesy Irene V. Shepard

Problem of land clearance faced by early settlers is illustrated by this boulder strewn pasture. Location is in West Hartland on land of James B. Hall.

Soil was scarce on both the East and West Mountains. There was no way in which the larger boulders could be removed from the fields and it was necessary to leave them, ploughing, hoeing and mowing around them year after year. Is it any wonder the news reaching them about the smooth and fertile regions of Western New York and Northern Ohio added to their discontent?

Much has been said about the exodus of Hartland families to Ohio and tradition has 102 people leaving in the early 1800's. It is said that a new town called Hartland was formed in Ohio by these same Hartland emigrants. Little has been written on this subject and no official records seem to exist. (There is a little town by the name of Hartland in Ohio today but it is too small to have a U. S. Post Office.) A few years ago, Mr. Lewis S. Mills, at one time Superintendent of Rural Education for Hartland, prepared a paper entitled "Western Migration From Hartland" in which he describes the exodus and with his kind permission we are quoting extracts from it:

"Titus Hayes, Sr. . . . was born on February 1, 1746, in Lyme, Connecticut. He married Debora Beckwith of Lyme on June 7, 1770. On May 31, 1776, he purchased for about \$760. a grist mill, fulling mill, house and several other buildings near Hubbard Brook in North Hollow, Hartland, and moved his family to the new home at once.

"Titus Hayes, Sr. was enrolled in the Continental Army from 1777 to 1781, and was with Washington at Valley Forge. However, he spent most of his time from 1777 to 1781 on 'leave of absence' in order to grind corn for the town and the army.

"The State of Connecticut began, about the year 1796, to sell land in New Connecticut, now northern Ohio. As so many wished to buy western land, the buyers drew lots. On the 73rd draft, on April 22, 1798, Titus Hayes, Sr. and Uriel Holmes of Hartland together with Ephriam Root of Hartford drew 12,903.23 acres of land, at 25¢ an acre, in Trumbull County, Ohio.

"In June 1798, Titus Hayes, Jr., the second son of Titus Hayes, Sr., and born in Lyme on February 28, 1776, left Hartland with the intention of joining a company of surveyors to be employed in the Western Reserve during that season . . . With no other companion than a faithful dog, his gun, a loaf of bread and some salt in his knapsack, he left Erie, Pennsylvania . . . he soon passed the last log cabin and trusting to his pocket compass bore westward and entered the State of Ohio . . . passing through the territory now called Andover, he entered the township of Wayne. He swam the Pymatuning Creek and began to admire the beautiful lands where he later settled . . . His was the first visit of civilized man to the interior of the township of Wayne. In 1799 this township was surveyed into lots of a half-mile square, each containing 160 acres.

"He sent a report to his father of the rich and fertile land with beautiful rolling prairies, land so much easier to cultivate than the rock-bound fields of Hartland . . .

"Thirteen families made ready and set out at once for Ohio, in the early summer of 1799. On May 5, 1800, seventeen families numbering in all over 100 men, women and children, set out for Ohio. Among this group were the following:

Lemuel Stores—who had been a colonel in the Revolutionary War.

Josiah Pelton—who rode all the way to Ohio on horse-back, and turned his horse loose to graze during the summer and it became so wild he had to lasso it in the fall . . .

Ruhamah DeWolf . . . Jehire Meacham, who was a blacksmith in Hartland and set up the first blacksmith shop in Trumbull County, Ohio.

Joseph DeWolf . . . and Isaac Jones of Barkhamsted . . . Rev. Obed Crosby and family. He was a Methodist minister and organized the first Methodist Church in Hartland, Ohio, in 1801. The first services were held under a beech tree . . .

"In 1804 Colonel Richard Hayes, son of Titus Hayes, Sr., left Hartland for 'New Connecticut' with ten families. When they set out on their journey, a special service was held at the Meeting House and a farewell sermon preached . . .

"In the spring of 1811, Titus Hayes, Sr., gave up his town position and with a little group of friends set out for Ohio. As he had been the town miller and so closely connected with town affairs for so many years, the town gathered to say 'Farewell' to one of its best loved citizens. The journey was long and difficult for the aged man so that he was ill on arriving in Ohio, and died in Vernon, Trumbull County, in 1811." End of quote.

The cold summer of 1816 may have contributed to the removal of many in the later groups. There was a frost in every month of that year destroying the crops on which all were dependent for food, including live-stock. When it became evident that corn and grain of all kinds would not come to harvest, large crops of turnips were planted late in the year and by this means many were able to survive—but during the following winter some were reduced to a state bordering on famine. A few reached the conclusion that future years might bring a repetition and hastened to depart for other regions.

An appraisal of the "First Exodus" from Hartland, when viewed in the light of statistics, indicates that it may not have been as great as one has been led to believe. The census of 1820 still shows a population of 1254, a loss of 64 during this 20 year period. Others may have moved into the empty houses of those who left, and births may have accounted for the small loss in population over these two decades.

Those who remained behind were discontent in a number of ways. Horses, neat cattle and sheep were still running at large on the highways. On October 6, 1823, they voted to put an end to this by fining the owners 6¢ per head on any so found. At other Town Meetings, other votes,—Bounties of \$4. were offered for every wildcat any person may kill. No hemlock plank shall be allowed to be laid on any bridge in this Town.

Hartland, like "Caesar's Gaul" has always been divided into three parts. The East Mountain, Hartland Hollow and the West Mountain, were by nature and the abominable roads of the time so far distant from each other that a day's time was consumed in traveling to Town Meeting or any other function which required travel from one section to the other. The time had come to try to do something about it and on this all were apparently agreed. In Volume 2, at Page 71, of Town Clerk's Record Book, the following vote is recorded under date of April 9, 1827:

"Voted: Whereas the inhabitants of this Town suffer many inconveniences from the peculiar local situation of said town and that it would be for the interest of said Town to be divided: Therefore, Resolved that it is expedient to have the Town divided according to the line this day agreed upon, and upon the terms this day agreed upon by Vote of the Town. And we do hereby appoint Nathaniel Bosworth and Augustus Humphreys our Agents to Petition the next Legislature to have the West Society of said Town incorporated as a New Town.

"Voted to divide the Town by the following line (viz): Beginning at Barkhamsted line at the Hollow River and following the River to the North Side of the Bassett farm, so-called, thence running West to the top of the ledge, thence North following the top of the ledge to the Massachusetts line. The West Society to take the whole of the Bridge near the house of George F. Miller."

The result of their petition seems to have met with a resounding NO on the part of the legislature, although no report of their Agents is on record. Although their efforts to accomplish this division were unsuccessful, there are some who advocate this plan at the present time. (A similar petition is before the Connecticut General Assembly in 1961.)

The year 1837 brought more pleasing matters for consideration. Hartland was to share with other towns in the State in the distribution of Surplus Funds resulting from the sale of lands in The New Connecticut of Northern Ohio. Vol. 2, Page 112, of the Town Clerk's record book, under date of January 26, 1837, describes the vote taken at that time to accept the Fund and provide for its management. The three who were appointed to loan and manage the fund were: Ira Beach, William Selby, Jr., and Asa Bushnell. Originally, the funds were invested in first mortgages on Hartland farms but later deposited in Savings Banks. This fund is still in existence and is known as the "Town Deposit Fund".

In 1840, under date of May 8, fourteen highway locations were defined and provisions made for their maintenance. Sometimes they were repaired by those residing along certain stretches of road on a contract basis. At other times the Selectmen looked after the upkeep of all the roads.

Hartland residents were still being plagued by horses, neat cattle, sheep and even swine roaming the fields and highways at large and at will. The older records are filled with "brands" registered with the owner's name. It is understandable that before the stone walls and rail fences had been built that there was little restriction and everyone took the situation for granted. These conditions prevailed, however, for over 100

years. Each year, in addition to the appointments of the usual tithing-men, fence viewers, etc., a number of "Haywards" were designated to act for the several sections of the town. The name "Hayward" is defined by the American College Dictionary as: "An officer having charge of hedges and fences especially to keep cattle from breaking through and to impound strays." As late as the annual meeting of October 4, 1852, the following were chosen for that office:

Anson McLoud	Joseph Thompson, Jr.
Isaac L. Pardee	Chester W. Gilman
Silas C. Banning	Osmon Case
Benjamin Giddings	Dennison Crane
Orris Giddings	John Ward

This condition did not end for many succeeding years for on October 3, 1892, we find that they are still voting:

"Voted to make every man's yard a Pound. Every man shall be his own Pound-keeper. To have 3 Pounds, No. 1 in West Hartland—the old pound—E. A. Gavlord, keeper. No. 2, H. J. Gates' Yard, H. J. Gates, keeper. No. 3, J. R. Ferry's yard, J. R. Ferry, keeper. Voted to have the selectmen put in force the dog law."

Up to this time Town Meetings were held in the Meeting Houses of first one mountain and then the other. This practice had been scrupulously followed from the beginning and it forced those in the outlying sections to travel long distances, while those who lived close by had all the advantage. This had been a bone of contention for many years but nothing had been done about it. Finally, it was decided to have a "Town House" and to locate it in the geographical center of the Town so that those in the remote sections would, at least, be on an equal basis. In Volume 2, at page 225, of the Town Clerk's records is recorded the vote taken at the annual meeting held October 3, 1859:

"Voted to build Town House in the East Hollow at such place on land of Jonathan Miller as may be selected by the building committee hereafter to be appointed. The cost of said house not to exceed \$500. including the subscription and the expense of building said house over and above the subscriptions to be paid out of the Town Deposit Fund. Nathaniel W. Gaylord, John Jones and Warren Stebbins appointed as building committee. Voted to have the house completed by the first of September next."

The succeeding years are filled with votes, authorizing the building to be used for dances, religious services and social activities. Joshua Ferry was custodian for some years and was to have \$1.00 for every dance.

Soon after, the Civil War occupied the attention of the authorities, and on July 23, 1862 they voted:

"That the Town pay \$100. to each volunteer from this town immediately after he shall have been accepted and sworn into the United States service to fill the quota from the town of the 300,000 men called by the President."

Forty-nine eventually responded from Hartland.



—Courtesy Georgiana Feley Rebillard

The Old Town Hall in Hartland Hollow. Built in 1860, and used as a Town Hall until sold to the Metropolitan District Commission in 1940. Each fall the local "Cattle Shows" were held at this location.

The Town Meeting of November 6, 1877 makes the first mention of voting for State Senator and Representatives to the General Assembly. (Vol. 3, page 45.) Ebenezer H. Miller and Uriah Nickerson received a majority of the votes for representatives. This was the year when the Connecticut Capitol moved into the new building, as we know it now. The list of representatives we have compiled dates from this time.

The 1890's provided little of the gaiety for Hartland which this era is supposed to have evoked in other places. Life followed much the same routine as the pattern which had developed since the Civil War. The family farm with its butter and egg production and sustaining crops was the order of the day. Oil lamps had replaced the earlier candles, and the mowing machine, disc-harrow and horse-rake had made life a little easier, but the daily program still began at sunrise and continued until the last chores were finished—usually long after dark.

Schools were being given a little more attention by the Townspeople and the Selectmen were instructed by votes taken at Town Meetings to provide the several districts with physiologies, text books and copies of Webster's Unabridged Dictionaries.

Such were the high-lights of the Century from 1800-1900.

FROM 1900 TO 1961

It would be difficult today for anyone, traveling over the same roads, to visualize the Hartland of 1900. The roads themselves were always a source of great contention, annoyance and inconvenience to the inhabitants; a slough of mud when the frost came out in the spring (it took all day for the mail from East Hartland to reach Granby and return), and a cloud of dust in the dry summers. The roads down the West and up the East Mountain were pretty much the same as they had been for the past 100 years—steep, with “thankye-maams” at intervals, and wooden sluices diverting the water from one side to the other. On the less traveled roads, grass grew in the center in the summer and they were impassable in the winter because of deep drifts. Neighbors combined their teams and efforts to keep the roads open during the winter months. Appeals to the Selectmen were not yet a common practice.



—Courtesy Alice Emmons Parmelee

East Hartland-West Granby Stage Early 1900's. Driver, Eric Yorgensen. Passengers, Mrs. Jennie Cooley and Grandson, Albert Harchett.

As one traveled along the muddy or dusty roads of 1900, the houses and buildings scattered along the way at various intervals presented an unkempt and dilapidated appearance. Money was still scarce, and the majority of residents were “too poor to paint and too proud to white-wash”. Barns, wagon-sheds, and other outbuildings built a hundred years ago of solid construction but placed on poor foundations showed the ravages of time and were askew and leaning in all directions. No

paint had ever been applied and all were of weathered wood. The houses, on firmer foundations, had fared somewhat better but most were in need of paint and the replacement of broken window-panes. Roofs covered with chestnut shingles, their courses raised and warped, added to the general unkempt appearance of the whole.

Door and farm-yards were filled with old lumber, cord-wood, wood-piles, broken and discarded wagons, farm tools, and broken down equipment littered the landscape. There were a few exceptions, of course.

The coming of the gasoline engine, composition shingles, ready-mixed paint, and later the automobile and improved roads, changed the face of Hartland, as indeed they did the entire face of America.

In 1909 the Town took over all the School Districts and became responsible for their conduct and maintenance. The "second exodus" was beginning and the population on the decrease. World War I came, and high prices of farm products benefited the few still engaged in farming.

The year 1920 brought the franchise for Women, and the entire political life of Hartland was changed overnight. For 160 years men had governed, but from now on the fairer sex were a new force with which to be reckoned.

In September 1920, the first five women to be made voters were:

Mabel Hitchcock Cole
Jennie L. Hitchcock
Louisa Barker
Elnora Snow
Rose Miller.

The first woman elected to public office was Marie P. Emmons of East Hartland who was elected a representative to the Connecticut General Assembly in the State election of 1923. Since that time women have been active participants in all political activities, especially on the School Board.

In spite of the automobile being in common use and a corresponding improvement in road conditions, the population of Hartland continued to decrease until it reached the all-time low of 296 in the census of 1930.

The 1930's brought the depression; the activities of the Metropolitan District Commission in Hartland Hollow; the C.C.C. Camp in East Hartland, and the State Forest program. During this time and before 1940, the Hartland Hollow and Center Hill sections were devoid of habitation, as well as other large areas of the Town acquired by the State Forest.

The last Town Meeting was held in the old Town Hall in October 1940, followed by the State election in November of the same year. In the 80 years since 1860, it had been the scene of many local political battles between Democrat and Republican. The Town became a Republican "stronghold" in the early 1900's but before that time the Democrats were often in the majority.



—Courtesy Alice Emmons Parmelee

Marie P. Emmons. First woman elected to public office in Hartland. Mother of Nathaniel Emmons, selectmen from 1945-1949, and Alice Emmons Parmelee, present tax collector.

With the sale of the old Town Hall to the M.D.C., the previous practice of holding Town Meetings alternating between the East and West Mountains was again inaugurated. The Methodist Church building in West Hartland, and Society Hall in East Hartland were used for this purpose. Although the Town had a building fund of over \$25,000, received from the M.D.C. and allocated for a new Town Hall, no satisfactory agreement could be reached as to location. Each side, East and West, thought it should be located in their area. The stalemate was finally broken by East Hartland applying their share toward the building of an auditorium, designated as a Town Hall, in connection with the new school built in East Hartland in 1949.

In 1953 West Hartland built an addition on the one-room school erected in 1937, and this also was designated as a Town Hall, their share of the Town Hall money being used for that purpose. Hartland is unique in being one of the few towns, if not the only one in Connecticut, having two Town Halls.

The population of Hartland is on the increase. The last census (1960) shows a total of 1044 as compared to the 1800 high of 1318 and the 1930 low of 296. A number of new homes are being built each year, and the East Hartland section is expanding rapidly. Town government has been modernized to keep pace with present day needs.

Those who settled here in the 1750's would no longer recognize the present Hartland and those who may have journeyed through as late as 1900 would have difficulty in identifying it as the same place. The last 50 years have brought such topographical changes that only the older residents remember when it was a town composed of family farms, dirt roads and one-room schools. The littered door-yards and drab buildings of the 1900's have been replaced by the well-kept lawns and freshly painted homes of the present inhabitants. State highways and hard-surfaced roads provide easy access to the more remote sections, and the hardships of previous years are all but forgotten. Much of that which was originally forest has returned to the same state and large areas of water cover the fertile acres of the past.

Many of those still residing within its borders, however, still consider the 45% of Hartland's land area left to individual ownership as one of the best locations for the practice of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

CHAPTER V

The Churches

HISTORY OF THE FIRST CHURCH IN HARTLAND, CONGREGATIONAL

(By Judith Franzen Devlin)

A total understanding of the beginnings of the First Church in Hartland, Congregational, cannot be achieved simply by reviewing the chronological development of Hartland itself. The story actually begins with the first colonists who came to New England in 1620. These colonists were Separatists, Puritan extremists who would not compromise with what they felt to be the Catholic tendencies of the Church of England. The slightest tie between Church and State, the barest inkling of centrally organized government within the Church—either was felt to endanger the movement to purify the Church from within. They landed in what is now southern Massachusetts and proceeded to establish an ideally Separatist community, which they named Plymouth.

They prospered, managed to buy out the owners of stock in their London backed enterprise, and were as free-living and as tolerant of their own and others' weaknesses as their rigorously Separatist Puritanism allowed them to be. In the end, however, they had neither the stamina nor the deep conviction to hold on to their Separatism. As a result, Plymouth Colony was merged in 1684 with that of Massachusetts Bay to the north.

The founders of Massachusetts Bay Colony did have the determination and the inner drive to survive. Moreover, their whole outlook on life was witness of that drive and determination, serving to shield and strengthen them so that they could master whatever they had to in order to survive—Indians, disease, a hard land, their own human inability to submit. They were not Separatists, but, so they thought, the purest of the Puritans, determined to purify the Church of England from within, determined to establish a pattern of life in Massachusetts which would preserve the true nature of the Church abroad though it was being corrupted at home. They were not, in any sense, liberals or revolutionaries. They had discovered the truth as it was revealed in the Bible, and they were determined to establish a society in which that truth would be dramatically evident.



—From drawing by Charles McDonough

First Congregational Church of Hartland, East Hartland, Connecticut

The society of this colony was one of small towns and farms, prospering in trading, fishing, farming and shipbuilding. It was a much better informed and better educated society than that at Plymouth had been. In addition, it was much more tightly knit, because it had been better planned. It was theocratic, ostensibly ruled by laymen, yet virtually in the control of its ministers. Suffrage was limited to Church members; and power and property came quickly into the hands of an orthodox minority, a group all the more powerful because it was God-ordained to rule. To find joy, which lay in the discovery of one's proper place, so the Puritan of Massachusetts believed, one must submit to one's leaders, and thereby doing, to God. This role of leadership gave to the orthodox minority the right to control the lives of the members of each little Puritan community — the levying of taxes, the schools and what was taught therein, the pastures, the morals, the social and economic structure, and needless to say, the Church itself. The result was a closed and strict corporation.

The social and economic structure of the Colony thus depended upon the Puritan's understanding of his relationship to God. It was to the study of this relationship that he devoted his greatest energy; and around this relationship he shaped his life. The writings and examples of Saint Augustine, and his spiritual descendants, Calvin for example, lent themselves to a pattern which indicated just what this relationship between God and Man should be. This is embodied in what they called their Covenant Theology. "According to this pattern, at the beginning of man's history God had contracted with Adam in a Covenant of Works, by the terms of which Adam had agreed to perform certain duties and in turn was to be allowed to live in his God-given paradise. But, as God had foreknown, Adam wilfully broke this contract, gained knowledge but lost his simple intuitive clarity of understanding, and so doomed all men after him."¹ The second Covenant made between God and man took place at the sacrifice of Isaac where God foretold the Covenant of Grace, by the imparting of righteousness to Abraham because of his great faith. "Then God's Son contracted with his Father in a Covenant of Grace, by the terms of which the Son would sacrifice Himself so that God would save a few of the children of Adam. As a result some men were visited with God's irresistible Grace and thus elected to eternal salvation. Men had no choice in the matter only that hope which could be sustained by faith and intense study and interpretation of the Bible."² Following this pattern of the search for establishment of a relationship between God and man came the tradition whereby each Congregation banded together and wrote, in its own language, a Covenant to which each member then and subsequently would swear to bind himself.

The members of the First Church in Hartland, Congregational, in 1758 hammered out and arrived in agreement at the following Covenant which is recorded in *Records 1768-1931, First Ecclesiastical Society and Congregational Church, Volume II*:

We do solemnly Avouch the Eternal God Father Son and Holy Ghost to be our God & do devote ourselves & children to him Promising as He shall by his Grace enable us believe

his Truths obey his Will run the Race of his Commands walking before him in uprightness united by with diligence maintaining and attending his Worship exercising ourselves in the Duties of Sobriety Justice & Charity watch over one another in the Lord

And forasmuch as Christ the Head & King of the Church hath appointed Spiritual Administration on his House as censures for Offenders Consolations for the Penitents and Quickening for all such as the Word & Sacraments We do promise by the Grace of God we will truly Countenance faithfully and orderly to the regular Administration of them in the Place & carefully perform our respective & enjoined Duties that we may all be saved in the Day of the Lord.

Amen.

There was a blank space after “. . . united by”. In the recording of the Covenant as voted by a church meeting on July 14, 1815, the words “. . . united by” were omitted. It is interesting to note that there is no punctuation and that the sign “&” is used in place of “and” throughout.

Volume III of the above mentioned *Records* indicates that in 1815 the following Confession of Faith was used along with the Covenant.

You believe

that there is but one only living and true God subsisting in three persons, the Father Son and Holy Ghost, possessed of equal excellence & glory

that God worketh all things after the council of his own will, & that He made & governs all worlds, creatures and things

that the holy Scriptures of the Old & New Testaments are the words of God & the only rule of faith and practice

that God created man in his own image under the laws of perfect obedience, forbidding him to eat of the tree of knowledge upon pain of death; that he fell from that state by transgression & plunged himself and his posterity into a state of sin and death

that all men are by nature totally depraved, & that God for his own glory has chosen all believers in Christ to eternal life through sanctification of the Spirit & belief of the truth

that Jesus Christ has made atonement for sin by which alone we must be saved

that the Holy Ghost regenerates, sanctifies & prepares for future glory all who put their trust in Christ for salvation

that the righteousness of Christ is the only ground of justification in the sight of God

that all true believers will persevere through faith to final salvation

that the Sacraments of the New Testament are Baptism & the Lord's Supper

that baptism is to be administered to adult believers and their infant children

that the Lord's Supper is an holy ordinance instituted by Christ as a memorial of his death to be received by all who publicly profess their faith in him

that you believe in the resurrection of the body & a future general judgment when the righteous will be received to glory & the wicked be sentenced to endless punishment

This you believe

The Covenant of 1815 is the same as that of 1768 except for these changes: "You" and "yourselves" replace "we" and "ourselves" in the original; the end of the second line of the original which states "do devote ourselves and our children to Him" is changed to read "do devote yourself (yourselves) & all you have to him." At the end of the Covenant these words have been added:

Thus you covenant & engage
We the members of this church do now cordially receive you into our communion & promise to watch over you with Christian affection and tenderness, imploring the great Shepherd of Israel that both you & we may have wisdom & grace to be faithful in his covenant & glorify his name forever

On page five of Volume IV of the *Records* the Confession of Faith is again recorded, with some changes. Each paragraph is indicated as an Article and is numbered I to XIII, and each begins with "You believe that . . .". Also between Article VII and VIII there is added a paragraph which reads as follows:

Version—that regeneration, sanctification & preparation for future glory is all the work of the Holy Spirit.

A footnote states that this had been added to the confession "by special vote of the church April 1, 1848".

The Covenant of the First Church in Hartland, Congregational, to-day is much the same as that first ascribed to by the founders of the church. In keeping with our present understanding and word usage, the word "Ghost" in the second line has been replaced by "Holy Spirit", and the words "united by" have been restored to their original place, followed by the insertion of the word "love". The Covenant has also been punctuated.

There is one particular phrase which on the surface appears to be a benevolent, innocent statement, but oh the injustices which sometimes issued from its adherence. The phrase is this: ". . . watching over one another . . .". Today it may be interpreted as a friendly concern for the other members of the congregation, but in the Puritan days it meant what its face value indicates, and these Puritans tended to watch over each other with a jaundiced eye. The records of the First Church in Hartland contain many accounts of "trials" before the elders of the church to atone for "Slipping from the path of the Godly".

The rule of discipline, as defined on page thirty-nine of Volume III, September 1, 1843, was Matthew 18:15-17, which reads,

If thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth

of two or three witnesses every word may be established. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee a heathen man . . .

This rule was followed to the letter; warnings were passed out to the offender, with suggestions for mending his way. If he did not comply, he was called before a meeting of the congregation to account for his actions. One case of this order involves a man who was guilty of absenting himself from worship for "two summers" in addition to the use of profanities on the Sabbath. He was called before the meeting and kept the moderator busy, "being guilty of trying to out-talk him". Evidently no confession was forthcoming. The case carried on to the displeasure of the Church and to the nonconcern of the individual involved. The case was finally closed when the entire family of the man was dropped "from the Christian care" of First Church. The family subsequently joined the Methodist Society.³

In the early Puritan society, all were Christians. When a problem arose, be it an affair of the Church, or some business of the town, the people who met with the problem were the same. The men who attended the town meeting and the men who prayed in the church were the same. As time passed, however, "the ungodly" and less zealous generations began to ask for a part in the running of affairs. The Congregationalists were determined to carry out their own religious notions undisturbed; one of them wrote, "All families, Antinomians, Anabaptists, and other Enthusiasts shall have free liberty to keep away from us." From this sort of statement we can discern that for a period of time the struggle for control was carried on between the zealots and the "ungodly". It is for this reason that the history of nearly every New England town is fraught with references to and conflicts with the Church members who were reluctant to loose their grip on the control of the town.

Although Hartland cannot be classified as an early Puritan community, the influence of the First Church was strong in the community for many years. This strength arose out of its priority of establishment and the theocratic manner of organization in the original community. Hence, the relationship of the First Church in Hartland to the parish surrounding it was in the beginning an organic and entangling one.

In order to qualify for incorporation, the parcelling of each town had to include plans for "the Preaching of the Gospel". Thus an unquestioned part of the business of Hartland was the setting aside of the "parsonage lots" for the use and support of a minister. These lots amounted to seventy-five acres, for the pastor had to be able to support himself to some extent, or the lands might be used to help defray the expense of a minister. These seventy-five acres were later to play an important part in the establishment of an Ecclesiastical Society in Hartland. Page four of Volume I of the *Records* shows the following agreement between the townspeople and the first minister of the Hartland Church:

1. Agreed to give Mr. Starling Graves for his Settlement, one Hundred Pounds Lawful money & the Seventy-five

acres of Lands which is the just Write of the first minister which settles in said Town which Seventy-five acres of Lands lies on the East mountain, & in the Second Division in said Town . . . and fifty pound of said Settlement to be Paid next Christmas & fifty the Christmas come twelve months with the Lawful interest from the time due till paid.

Again civil law entered the picture to establish a meeting house. In 1675 a law was enacted which required that a meeting house must be erected in each town within the colony. If the people failed to comply with this edict, the magistrates were empowered to see to the construction and to lay the charges on the townspeople. As the word implies, the meeting house was to be used for all meetings—civil and religious. It was necessary then that Hartland have such a building. In August of 1764 it was decided to make particular plans for one. The town committee had petitioned the county court in Litchfield earlier to appoint a committee to “fix a place for the meeting House here in Hartland”. The Court Committee presented the following report in respect to the above request.

Litchfield County Town of Hartland April 22nd A.D. 1762

We the Subscribers being by the Honorable County Court of said County at their session January last appointed a Committee to State and Fix a Place for to Erect and Build a Meeting House in Said Town and to Make a Return of Our Doings to said County upon the Fourth Tuesday of April instant . . . In pursuance of said Appointment We have repaired to Said Town, and Viewed the Same, and Search, and Examined a Place of Said Town presented to us by Said Towns Committee who were chosen and Appointed by Said Town Inhabitants, to Represent their Circumstances to us, and having also heard the Said Committee Relating to Said Affair, etc. . . . We have fixed and Stated the Place for to Build Said Meeting House upon the East Side of the River, on the East Mountain So called in Said Township on or near upon a Lot of Land Laid out for a Parsonage Lot in the Second Division and Second Tier of Lots (so called) from Simsbury West Line near or partly upon a Highway Running Eastwardly and Westwardly; a little Westwardly from the Burying Place, where We have Set a stake and Stones about it which Stake is to be Enclosed by the Sill of the Meeting House near which Place we have marked Diverse Trees, and do order that said Meeting House shall be built, and Set up by the Inhabitants of Said Town of Hartland for a House of public Worship at Said Place as aforesaid as witness our hands

Sam A. Pettibone
John Owen
Hez. Humphrey,
Committee

The church was built between 1764 and 1771 for it was voted on December 17, 1771 that a public meeting be held in the Meeting House. The records state that the dimensions of the structure were forty-five feet by thirty feet, with twenty foot posts.

The construction of the Second Meeting House, the one which stands today, was brought about by the Ecclesiastical Society in 1800.

Here one notes the transfer of concern regarding the affairs of the church from the town to a more specifically church-oriented group. However, by the very nature of the Ecclesiastical Society, the people who decided the matter were, as a group, not totally members of the Church. In 1800 a committee reported to the Society that repair of the standing Meeting House would cost three hundred pounds, and that the cost of constructing a new House with a steeple would be "716 Ld. 17s. 6d.". (Without a steeple the cost would have been reduced to "531 Ld. 16s. 6d.") In November of that year the Society voted to build a new Meeting House, and appointed a committee to find a location for it. At a subsequent meeting the following minutes were recorded:

The committee appointed for the purpose reported that the new meeting house ought to stand equi-distant between the dwelling house of James Frances and Eben B. Clark. The South end of the body of the house on the south line of the land to be purchased of said Clark . . .⁴

The Society accepted the report and voted to build a new church fifty feet by forty-five feet, twenty-five foot posts, with a steeple and spire. They voted to pay for the same by a forty-seven mill tax on the years 1799 through 1801, and during 1801 to pay three mills extra. (The people also paid a nine mill tax on town expenses, and this made a total of fifty-six mills.) The record says that at least one family moved from town to Ohio because of the stiffness of the taxes. What a delightful way to escape taxation!



—Courtesy Catherine Wright

Original Methodist Church, East Hartland, now used as Community Building by First Congregational Society.

The present day Society Hall was acquired by the Ecclesiastical Society in 1875. Prior to that time the building had been the site of Methodist services on the East mountain. The Methodists were an example of the lessening of the religious domination over community members by the Congregational Church. The Methodist Episcopal Society was strong when it began, but over a period of thirty years it dwindled down to three members. There is a tale told that these three members, in the true spirit of Christendom, closed their door one Sunday and came across the street and gave the key to the First Church for its own use.

In 1768, under the provisions of the will of the Reverend Starling Graves, the First Ecclesiastical Society, which has been mentioned above, was formed. Reverend Graves' will gave to the people of Hartland the seventy-five acres which they had originally set aside as the parsonage acres, with the stipulation that they be used for the "support of the Gospel Ministry among them" and for the support of schools in the "Easterly part of said Town". Being a "religious body" rather than a "corporate body", the Church could not legally hold property or administer its own business affairs. The Society was allegedly a body to hold and administer property. Many persons belonged to the Society who were not actual members of the Church as time went by. On the whole, the relationship between the secular and the religious groups has been cooperative, each recognizing the boundaries of its jurisdiction.⁵

The reading of the minutes of the Ecclesiastical Society shows the wide and varied concerns it had with the town and the Church. They record, for example, that "a tax laid equally on the folks of the Scollars that attended School to be appropriated for the purpose of supplying the school with wood . . ."⁶ Key #30 in the *Records* deals with the appointment of a committee to build a fence around the burying ground. In 1784 a committee was appointed to look into the revival of singing in the Church. Later minutes tell that the third pew from the East side in the front gallery, and second from the North in the side gallery were to be reserved for singers. Key #103 provides that:

Matter of the ringing of the Bell for the yr. ending Oct. 1834, or until the Annual Meeting shall have been noticed—(Viz) It shall be rung on the Sabbath as usual, on the days of public meetings and rung and tolled on funereal occasions—The person who rings the Bell shall make the fire in the stoves when necessary—and shall at all times when the Meeting House is not wanted, see that it is kept locked.

Key #83 reveals that the pews were "sold" to the members of the congregation in order to meet Mr. Anni Lindsley's salary. Several entries in the minutes are concerned with the upkeep and repair of the church properties. It was this body which decided to build the present Meeting House, and which, by 1905, had either purchased or inherited the rights to the parsonage, built in 1848 by the Reverend Nelson Scott. Even to this day it is the Society which hires and dismisses the ministers of the First Church. From this smattering, one can readily see that the concerns

of the Society, though primarily religious ones, also included secular affairs.

Just as the influence of the Church was felt locally from its beginnings, so did the Church, through the shaping of lives in the Christian Way, send out beams of Christianity to the world. Fourteen men whose characters and religious lives were molded in the First Church went out to fields of missionary service in India, West Africa, and, although it does not seem very far afield today, in Illinois and Missouri. Many supplied New England parishes. One, Lorin S. Gates, missionary to the Marathe Mission, lost his life at the hands of an insane Mohammedan. Another, Aaron Gates, was instrumental in the founding of Amherst College.



—Courtesy Alice Emmons Parmelee

*Interior View of First Congregational Church
Decorated for Old Home Day Celebration*

The total impact upon the world delivered by these fourteen men amounts to the establishment of seventeen churches and three schools in the home mission field, nearly seventy years total missionary service in the foreign field, and the establishment of a New England college. Surely if the First Church in Hartland, Congregational, should fade from the horizon tomorrow, the service she rendered to the world through these men alone would gain for her a place of honour in the memories of men.

MINISTERS OF THE FIRST CHURCH IN HARTLAND,
CONGREGATIONAL

	From	To
Starling Graves	June 29, 1768	1772*
Aaron Church	Oct. 20, 1773	1814**
Ammi Linsley	July 19, 1815	Nov. 1835
Aaron Gates	Jan. 1, 1836	1841***
J. C. Houghton	Jan. 1, 1843	June 1845
Nelson Scott	Sept. 24, 1846	June 4, 1857
#John Hartwell	Aug. 16, 1857	May 1, 1858
Ogden Hall	Sept. 18, 1858	April 28, 1859
*— — — —		
David Beals	June 30, 1860	Feb. 5, 1865
John B. Doolittle	July 30, 1866	June 19, 1872
Lyman Warner	1872	March 1876
N. G. Bonney	Oct. 9, 1876	Oct. 1878
J. G. Willis	1879	Jan. 14, 1880
Merrick Knight	1880	1890
C. H. Riggs	1890	1891
C. H. Pease	Oct. 30, 1892	Mar. 13, 1894
A. C. Davies	April 8, 1894	Dec. 1895
Wm. E. Moore	Jan. 26, 1896	April 1, 1903
E. L. Sanborn	May 1, 1903	Oct. 15, 1906
Benj. A. Dean	July 1, 1907	Aug. 5, 1908****
James A. Osborn	July 1, 1909	Nov. 1, 1912*****
T. W. Spanswick	Aug. 31, 1913	Oct. 1916
R. P. Dougherty	Summer of 1917	
Miss Estelle A. Dickenson	Summer of 1918	
James F. English	Summer of 1919	
A. W. Solandt (Rev.)	Oct. 1, 1919	Jan. 18, 1925
Paul Snyder	Summer of 1925-6	
Edw. S. Hickok	Summer of 1927-8	
Fred V. Winnett	Summer of 1929-30	
Douglass Maclean	Summer of 1931-2-3	
Wilfred J. Maclean	Summer of 1934-5	
Ellwood T. Dyson	Summer of 1936-38	
Daryl Kent	Summer of 1937	
Rev. Edmund Smiley	Each winter (Oct. to May) 1938 to 1943	
John Banks	Summer of 1939	
Wm. J. Hamilton	Summer of 1940	
David B. Parsons	Summer of 1941	
Henry Hayden	Summer of 1942	
Curtis Smith	Summer of 1943	
Philip Andersen	Summer of 1944	
David Stanfield	Summer of 1945	
Rev. Frank M. Weiskel	Summer of 1946	
Benjamin Bradford	Summer of 1947	
Kenneth Coates	Summer of 1948	
George Strong	November 1948	Oct. 1951
Rev. Lewis E. Purdum	Dec. 1, 1951	May 6, 1956
Dwight D. Snesrud	July 1, 1956	Feb. 22, 1959
Herbert O. Kelsey	May 24, 1959	

Notes

- #not on "True List" of D. N. Gaines; is included on other records.
- *died 1773
- **died 1825
- ***died 1850
- ****died 1921

*****died 1917
*— — — — one record names Alfred White from Oct. 1, 1859 to April 24, 1860.
¹Cady, Hoffman and Pearce, **The Growth of American Literature**, Vol. I p. 5
²**Ibid**
³George W. Strong **First Church in Hartland, Congregational**, Vol. I, p. 20
⁴**Hartland—First Ecclesiastical Records 1773-1864**, Key #33
⁵**Op. cit.** Strong p. 18
⁶**Op. cit. Hartland . . . Records**, Key #25

A HISTORY OF THE SECOND ECCLESIASTICAL SOCIETY
and
THE SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF HARTLAND,
CONNECTICUT

(By Stanley A. Ransom)

The Second Ecclesiastical Society of Hartland was formed on May 4, 1780, in the words of the founders, for the following reasons:
“WE, whose names are hereunto annexed, having our habitation by divine providence in the western part of the Township of Hartland, being by law an incorporated civil Society, where by reason of too great a distance, we can not with convenience steadily enjoy Communion in the special ordinance of the gospel, with any regular organized Church of Christ, deeply sensible of the high importance of such communion and earnestly desirous of it, and to that end would be formed into a distinct and particular Church of Christ by ourselves and thereupon unitedly and cordially embrace as matter of our firm belief the several summary doctrinal articles contained in the following Confession of Faith, and fully consent to the Church Covenant thereunto subjoined.” (The Confession of Faith and the Church Covenant being practically identical with that given in the History of the First Church and Society, is omitted here.)

The names of those signing for the Second Society are as follows:

Reuben Hale	Abner Bushnell	Prince Taylor, Jr.
James Hungerford	John Wilder	Samuel Crosby
Benoni Beach	John Bates	Daniel Ensign
Reuben Burnham	Joseph Wilder	Jacob Cowdry
Hezekiah Atkins	Simeon Crosby	Elezar Ensign
Elishama Porter	Asa Smith	Israel Williams
Ephraim Wilder	Abel Brace	James Markham

It is interesting to note that all of those signing were males—it was a man’s world in those days—but after thinking it over apparently it was considered that some of the women were also worthy of salvation and at a later meeting 23 of them were admitted to membership although their names are not given. (It was 107 years later before any



—From drawing by Charles McDonough

Second Congregational Church of Hartland, West Hartland, Connecticut

woman held an office in the Second Society. In 1887, Miss Emma Gaylord was chosen clerk.) Thus, on May 4, A.D., 1780, the Church of Christ in the Second Society was embodied by the Rev. Joseph Strong and Rev. Aaron Church, having a total membership of 44, legally constituted and ready for the settlement of a minister.

The first business meeting of the Society, however, was actually held on December 13, 1779, at which time it was voted to "Raise School Money, Set off School Districts and define boundaries." Samuel Borden and Eldad Shepard were appointed to lay the "flowers" (floors) of the New Meeting House. (Eldad Shepard was the first Inn keeper in West Hartland. His Inn was located on the east side of present Route 20 at a point about 300 feet north of the present residence of Pauline Crunden. The foundation and site are still recognizable. Samuel Borden lived on the corner of the old road leading to Colebrook River just north of where Mr. and Mrs. Elliot Peterson now live.)

On April 17, 1780, a committee consisting of Abel Brace, Eleazer Ensign and James Markham was appointed to sell the parsonage lot which had been held in reserve for the Second Society when the Town was laid out. The lot, as originally located, was too far to the south for their present purpose and a swap was consummated with Samuel Talcott who apparently was well pleased with the deal for he contributed an extra 10£ to help settle preaching. The Treasurer of the Society was authorized to accept Continental Money at the ratio of 20 to 1 for State Money. They were now ready to proceed with the organization of the Church body and the selection of a minister to settle with them.

Let us look for a moment at the conditions which prevailed in West Hartland or "The West Mountain" when the Second Society came into being. The land had not been cleared to any great extent and, although the roads had been laid out, they were in most cases little more than bridle paths between one farm and another. The only means of travel was on foot, by ox-cart, or horseback, and only one road led from one mountain to another. Spring floods sometimes washed away the bridge in Hartland Hollow adding to the uncertainties of getting from one side to the other of a town divided by nature. This condition was early recognized by the inhabitants and when the First Society was formed in 1769, it was agreed that the parsonage lots reserved in West Hartland for ecclesiastical purposes should not be taken for the support of the first church, but that they be held in reserve for the possible formation of a Second Society on the West Mountain. Less than ten years after the formation of the First Society, it was considered expedient by the inhabitants of the West Mountain to have their own Society and they petitioned the General Court accordingly. Permission was granted in due course resulting in the actions previously reported.

The men and women who became the first members of the Second Society were for the most part descendants of the early settlers of Connecticut and had come from Lyme, Haddam, Hartford and Windsor and other older Connecticut towns to seek their fortunes in places like Hartland which were being newly settled and developed. The War of the

Revolution was still in progress and many members of the Second Society had taken an active part in it. Money was scarce and barter was the chief means of exchange. Their houses and barns were rough habitations made of logs or boards and heated only by open fireplaces. Their farming equipment consisted of a few rudimentary tools and the furnishings of their homes was spartan and limited to the bare necessities of life, most of which had been brought with them from their former places of abode.

It was in such a situation and under such conditions that the Second Society began looking for a minister to settle with them and become their permanent pastor. Rev. William Hayes supplied the "Desk" for the first few months until calls could be sent and answers received from various candidates. On August 29, 1781, The Second Society gave Mr. Nathaniel Gaylord a call and offered him 510£ with his taking the lot provided for the minister. The money was to be predicated at 5 Sh. per bushel upon wheat. Evidently this was not enough inducement for after some consideration he refused. The call was renewed with further enticements on December 25, 1781, and this time Mr. Gaylord accepted and invitations were sent out to the ministers and Elders of the neighboring churches to assist in the Ordaining Ceremony.

On January 9, 1782, the Rev. Nathaniel Gaylord was ordained to the pastorate of the Second Church of Christ in Hartland; with the program and names of those participating as follows:

Rev. David Rowland of Windsor chosen Moderator
Rev. Aaron Church of East Hartland chosen Scribe

Parts in the service were performed in the following order:

Rev. Aaron Booge of Turkey Hills—First Prayer
Rev. Theodore Hinsdale of North Windsor—Sermon (2nd Cor.: 4:7 "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us")
Rev. Jonathan Marsh of New Hartford—Consecrating Prayer
Rev. David Rowland of Windsor—Charge
Rev. Aaron Church of East Hartland—Right Hand of fellow-ship
Rev. Rufus Hawley of Northington (Avon)—Concluding Prayer

In addition there were present Rev. Timothy Pitkin of Farmington and the Rev. Samuel Stebbins of Simsbury. The following delegates from other churches were also in attendance: Captain Noah Kellogg from New Hartford, Major Uriel Holmes from East Hartland, Captain Woodford of Northington (Avon) and Deacon Ashael Holmes of Turkey Hills.

The organization of the Second Church of Christ in Hartland was now complete with a settled pastor and Ecclesiastical Society which functioned until November, 1960, a total of 180 years.

Rev. Nathaniel Gaylord accepted the Lot provided for the minister consisting of 48½ acres and with his settlement money of 510£ proceeded to build his house and other outbuildings after paying £ 121 S 5 P 8 to

John Wilder and John Bates, Committee of the Second Society, for the land. This deed is dated November 11, 1782, about 11 months after Rev. Gaylord's ordination. It was expected that a pastor should pursue the avocation of husbandry in addition to his ministerial duties and obtain a portion of his earthly subsistence from the soil. For the succeeding fifty-nine years, Rev. Gaylord fulfilled this expectation.

The Lot was situated about one-half mile north of the location finally selected for the Meeting House. Rev. Gaylord's house was three years in building and was completed in 1785. It was a large one with a frame of huge hewed beams and clapboards which never received a coat of paint. Many still remember it with its weather-beaten look and in later years askew on its foundation with the central chimney leaning toward the south—a target of the north wind for over a century—and here and there broken panes of glass in the small casements. The house burned to the ground on Thanksgiving Day, 1917. In the early 1900's it became known as the "Honeymoon House" because of the many young married couples of West Hartland who began housekeeping within its leaning walls but—as Honeymoons go—never stayed for more than a few months. (The exact location of the house may be identified by the fact that it stood on the site of the house now owned and occupied by Pauline E. Crunden and family 1960.)



—Courtesy Gertrude Shelley Osborn

House built in 1782 by Rev. Nathaniel Gaylord, first settled pastor of Second Ecclesiastical Society, as it appeared in 1910. House burned Thanksgiving Day, 1917. Site on exact location of home now owned and occupied by Mrs. Pauline E. Crunden.

Rev. Nathaniel Gaylord deserves more than passing mention in his pastorate of the Second Church of Christ in Hartland, which continued for 42 years without assistance and did not end until his death on May 9, 1841, in the 59th year of his ministry in this place and at the age of 90 years. What kind of man was he? Tradition tells us that he was a man of fine personality and cultivated mind. Just before coming to Hartland he had graduated from Yale as valedictorian of his class. He was living in Windsor, Connecticut, when he accepted the call of the Second Society and it is presumed that he was born in that place. The Hartland Historical Society has in its possession several sermons written by him. These are in manuscript form and in his own hand-writing. Notes on some of them indicate that they were delivered in various other pulpits as well as West Hartland. A reading of them leaves no question concerning Rev. Gaylord's orthodoxy. He was the preachers' preacher of his day and was much sought after to preach at ordinations and other special services held in neighboring towns and at the Consociation of Churches which assembled yearly. Rev. Dr. Robbins in his diary, under date of September 29, 1812, records: "Went to Windsor on foot (from Hartford) and met with the Consociation. Mr. Gaylord of (West) Hartland preached very well" and again, under date of June 15, 1813, "Rode early from Litchfield to Watertown to attend the General Association as a delegate. Mr. Gaylord of (West) Hartland preached. We had good beer, but no spirits."

It is doubtful if anyone today would be much impressed by Mr. Gaylord's sermons. Now the accent is on LIFE, but in that day it was on DEATH. The Grim Reaper was paraded up and down the "broad alley", as they called the center aisle, in all his morbid trappings. The hand of Providence, for good or evil, was seen in every happening or event. While we acknowledge all of this to be as true today as it was then, yet, over the years, it has lost for us the meaning that inspired the hearts and minds of Rev. Gaylord's flock and converted some of them, at least, into souls as rugged and steadfast as their native granite boulders.

The first forty years of Rev. Nathaniel Gaylord's pastorate appear to have been a period of great harmony between pastor and congregation. Music seems to have had an important place in religious services for in 1784, we find that Dan Canfield, Abiathar Newton, Rufus Hall and Cepheas Beach were selected as choristers. And on October 6, 1794, the Society voted to hire a "Singing Master" and hired a Mr. Taintor at a salary of 3 £.

Today we speak of Salvation as being "free". This was not the case in the early days of the Second Society. Not, that is, unless you were willing to stand through the long service or take a seat in the gallery. Beginning in 1783 and occurring regularly for many years thereafter a committee was appointed at each annual meeting to "Seat" the congregation and Dignify the Pews of the Meeting-House." The Pews were usually sold at auction to the highest bidder with the understanding that if the sale did not bring in a certain amount—the whole affair

would be declared null and void. In Dignifying the Meeting House the committee tried its best to seat members according to age, amount of subscription and civic standing in the community. Pride is one of the things the Rev. Nathaniel Gaylord continually preached against, but it is evident that when it came to the "seating" his congregation had it in abundance. No other phase of Society activity seems to have caused as much hard feeling among the members as the sale and dignification of the pews. Ownership of individual pews had certain disadvantages, too. One of them was the conspicuousness of an empty pew at a Sunday service. If it was empty for three successive Sundays without explanation—some one came knocking at your door. The records of the Second Society contain many admonitions to members for "absenting themselves" from divine worship. As late as May 15, 1846, Pew No. 31 was reserved for the use of "maiden ladies."

The first Meeting House (the word Church was never used in early Congregational circles as pertaining to a building) must have been a barn-like structure and was without a steeple from 1782 to 1835. In 1797 the Society voted to pay E. Gilman \$30. to finish the building, so it must have been used in an unfinished state during the first fifteen years. (In 1797, the medium of exchange was changed from £s to dollars. This is the first reference to the new medium in the Society records.) No picture or drawing of the first structure is now extant. In imagination we see it as a crude box-like building without architectural design, without heat and with an interior in keeping with the times and the limited means of the congregation. The Pewter Communion Set used at that time is now in the possession of the Connecticut State Library and must have been the pride and joy of The Society's early members. In 1818, the building was painted white; the money being raised by subscription—if there was more than enough it was to be used for painting the roof.

Some of the more interesting votes taken at Annual meetings of the Society in its earlier days are as follows:

May 1, 1799—Voted that warnings of Meetings be posted on the sign-post and in addition on Bates Mill west and on the Guide Post in the Hollow.

April 15, 1822—Voted Treasurer to notify collectors to settle their bills in 60 days or proceed as the law directs in such cases.

Same Date—Voted to request the Selectmen to erect a sign-post opposite front door of Meeting House. If they refuse, to enter complaint to proper authorities.

Same Date—Voted to accept deed to Burying Ground from Joel Ensign and Arnold Oatman and give notice to inhabitants of appointed day to clear the ground.

Same Date—Voted Committee draw up a Subscription Paper for money to purchase a Pall for use of people on West Mountain.

April 18, 1823—Voted to refund Mr. Adkins money and interest he paid as a fine for refusing to collect.

October 30, 1823—Voted Society's Committee to ascertain who belongs to Second Society.

In other respects the Annual Meetings followed a more or less set pattern with votes taken to establish the Society's Committee for the year, define School districts and levy the necessary taxes for support of Schools and other routine matters. Up to this point there seems to have been no great difficulty in raising the money necessary to pay the Society's expenses and the pastor's salary but the collection of subscriptions was as much a problem then as it is today.

In 1823, after 41 years of service, Rev. Nathaniel Gaylord's health began to fail in the 72nd year of his age, and it was voted to hire a colleague to supply the desk with him. And now comes a sad note indicating that Committees of the Second Society did not mingle sentiment with business. A committee was appointed "to notify Rev. N. Gaylord that he is requested to attend this meeting" and at the meeting "that Mr. Gaylord be requested to commit to writing the proposition he has made to this meeting respecting relinquishing provided they will hire a candidate." Mr. Gaylord continued to be called pastor and apparently preached and participated in the activities of the Second Society, whenever his health would permit, until his death in 1841; but there was no "Golden Jubilee" held to celebrate his 50th year of ministry in West Hartland and at the Annual Meeting of the Second Society held on November 8, 1841 no appropriate resolutions were recorded in connection with his long and faithful service. He continued to occupy the house which he had built and maintain the farm acquired as the Minister's Lot at the time of his settlement. He is buried in the first tier of graves in the cemetery immediately in back of the Church building—just a few feet from the pulpit he supplied for so many years.

The Probate Records show his estate was valued at \$2,769.00, that about 26 books comprised his entire library; and 3 cows and 20 sheep being listed as live stock. The records also show his funeral costs amounted to \$14. itemized as "To coffin for deceased \$8.00; To opening and filling grave \$2.00; To grave clothes \$4.00."

So it was that in 1823 the Society's Committee engaged Rev. William Ely to assist on a short term basis but apparently Rev. Gaylord's health did not improve and it was evident that a full time assistant would be necessary. Consequently, on July 1, 1824, Rev. Adolphus Ferry was given a call to settle with them and the following terms were offered "\$700. for 7 years at \$100. per year. If he stays 7 years he retains the whole. Given 4 weeks to consider." Rev. Ferry accepted the call and terms and served the Congregation for eight years, his death occurring in April, 1832.

The next assistant pastor of the Society was the Rev. John A. Hempsted, who served from October 1833 to September 1835. During that short period his first wife died and remarrying a few months later his second wife died in child-birth together with the infant child. The simple headstones close to the Church building tell the tragic story.

It was at this time that the brick house immediately north of the Church building came into use as a parsonage for the assistant pastors. These three signed the records as "Junior Pastors" and it must be borne in mind that the Rev. Gaylord was still considered the Senior Pastor as



—Courtesy Connecticut State Library

Pewter Communion Service used by members of Second Congregational Church beginning in 1780. Now in possession of Connecticut State Library.

he had refused to “relinquish” when it was suggested he do so in 1823. Rev. John A. Hempsted was dismissed at his own request in 1835 but evidently he filled in on some occasions when Rev. Gaylord was indisposed.

The early 1830’s were difficult years for the Society. The reasons for this were two-fold. First—The collection of subscriptions and taxes had reached the point where it was almost impossible to pay the pastor’s salary, raise money for support of schools or meet other Society expense. For those who complain of today’s high taxes, please note to following rates as voted:

October 29, 1827—Voted tax of 9c on each dollar of Grand List

November 8, 1829—Voted tax of 10c on each dollar of Grand List

January 2, 1831—Voted tax of 12c on each dollar of Grand List

Not mills but cents. Conditions at this stage had reached the point where a man had to be wealthy in order to belong to the Second Society and

pay for his pew. Some of the members began to look for a way out. That was one of their troubles.

The Second—and probably more greivous one is that in 1833 the resident Methodists, who had had a Class for some years but no regular place of worship, built a Meeting House on the corner diagonally across the road from Rideout Moore's Tavern. In fact, Rideout Moore donated the land and as the expense of being a Methodist was much less than belonging to the Second Society, it appealed to many for reasons other than spiritual. True, many considered these shouting Methodists as being too noisy in their devotions, but, nevertheless, there were some who experienced a change of heart "threw in their certificates and sought dismissal from the Second Society." Something had to be done!

The Rev. Luke Wood was called and settled as pastor in 1838 continuing until May 1842. Rev. Nathaniel Gaylord's death occurred in 1841 and Mr. Wood became the second full time pastor of the Second Society. The records of this period show that their efforts to collect the necessary money to pay the pastor's salary were not meeting with much success. On November 8, 1841, it was voted "To try once again to collect old subscription bills and if not paid leave them with a suitable Officer for collection." But, in spite of all the trouble in connection with finances, some of the membership began a campaign to do something about fixing up the Meeting House. Perhaps this was due to a certain amount of vexation when they considered the new building being built by the Methodists down on the corner.

Up to this time the old Meeting House had no steeple but it did have a chimney for on November 11, 1832, they voted "To give Arnold Oatman \$1.00 when he tops out the chimney to Meeting House." On September 14, 1835, they voted "to appoint a committee to ascertain expense of building steeple to Meeting House" with Benson Coe as chairman. (Benson Coe was long active in the affairs of the Society serving at various times as Deacon, Moderator, Collector and in other official capacities. He was also a master builder of his day. It was he who built the steeple of the old Meeting House and hewed most of the timber for the present Church building. In 1840, he built the West Parish School House at a total cost of \$200.50. It was he who by vote of the Society under date of January 2, 1831, was given the dubious title of "Dog Clearer for Sundays.") The steeple was built on the old building and there is no statement as to how the money was raised to defray this expense, but no doubt much of it was by volunteer labor and subscriptions. At this time, Mr. Stephen Goodyear, a deacon at one time, presented the Society with a bell for the steeple—something they had never had before. (Stephen Goodyear lived on Center Hill near the place where Mrs. Dorothy Day now resides. He was known as the "Hartland Banker" and left an estate of over \$10,000. when he died on September 6, 1845, at the age of 84. As an interesting side light—on November 9, 1835, it was "Voted the thanks of this Society to Mr. Stephen Goodyear for his present of a Bell for the Meeting House.", and a committee consisting of Abiather Newton and John M. Case appointed for

that purpose. The committee accordingly sent Mr. Goodyear a formal note of appreciation as follows:

November 10, 1835—"We the subscribers in behalf of the Second Ecclesiastical Society in Hartland acknowledge with gratitude the benevolence of Mr. Stephen Goodyear for presenting a Bell to the Society. May He receive the richest of Heavens blessings as an ample reward for his liberality. **Sign.**

In August of 1955, this same note was discovered among other papers at an auction in Unionville, Connecticut, and subsequently came into the possession of the writer who presented it to the Second Society on November 10, 1955, one hundred and twenty years to the day from the time when it was sent to Mr. Goodyear. It is now framed and hangs in the present Church building.)

The Society now had a Meeting House with a steeple and a Bell that they must have been extremely proud of for on February 6, 1837, they voted—"To ring the Bell at 12 noon and 9 P.M. till the 20th of March then at 12 noon to September 20th then at 9 P.M. till end of year." This must have meant every day of the week and the 9 P.M. ringing was no doubt some sort of a "curfew" of the time. At funerals the bell tolled to mark the number of years comprising the age of the departed. When the wind was in the right direction, its mellow peal could be heard both day and night—serving notice to the Methodists and those of other faiths that, so far as the Congregationalists were concerned, "God was in His Heaven and all was right with the world." But, in spite of all these accomplishments, the spirit of discontent began to rear its ugly head among the membership. There were some who voiced the opinion that it had been a mistake to build the steeple and install the bell on the old building. The original part of the old building must have been badly in need of repair to force the decision they made at this time.

Although they were much in arrears on their pastor's (Rev. Luke Wood) salary, nevertheless, on March 6, 1843, it was voted: "Society give up their Meeting House provided another can be erected in its place." A committee consisting of T. D. Bosworth, E. A. Gilman, N. W. Gaylord and T. E. Williams was appointed to bring in a model and an estimate of the probable expense. The committee subsequently reported at an adjourned meeting and recommended building a new Meeting House patterned after the one which had just been completed in Tolland, Massachusetts, and estimated the expense to be \$800. Over one year later, on April 12, 1844, the Society voted—"Society proceed to build a new Meeting House provided they can raise Eight Hundred Dollars for the purpose within the limits of said Society with instructions to Committee not to pay over One Thousand." The building committee appointed at that time consisted of Timothy E. Williams, Elias E. Gilman, N. W. Gaylord, Nathaniel Bosworth, Benson Coe and T. D. Bosworth. Work began immediately on tearing down the old building and the present Church building was erected on the old foundation. Work must have progressed rapidly for the new building was ready for dedication in June of 1845.

On June 12, 1845, there was great celebration and dedication ceremony with the Rev. Timothy M. Cooley of Granville, Massachusetts, preaching the dedication sermon. His text was from Psalms 111:25: "O Lord, we beseech Thee, send now prosperity." That the prayer was answered is attested by the fact that the ensuing years seem to have been some of the most prosperous that the Society ever enjoyed.

Rev. Luke Wood had been paid off and dismissed in May, 1842. It had been necessary for the Society to borrow money from one of their members to settle Mr. Wood's account and again they were without a settled pastor. However, in May, 1843, Rev. Aaron Gates was called and supplied the pulpit until April, 1846. The Rev. Gates also preached in East Hartland during this same time, but lived in West Hartland in the Brick house just north of the new Church. In 1844, he was appointed to take the official census for the Town and the population of West Hartland was given as 519. The 1850 census lists the entire population of Hartland as 1,060 indicating that East and West were about equally divided as to inhabitants.

Now that their new building had been completed and Providence had been kind enough to leave them a legacy in the form of \$400. by the will and continued generosity of their old friend and ardent supporter, Mr. Stephen Goodyear, the membership renewed their interest and attendance, so that singing was revived and music became a more integral part of the Sunday Service. Instrumental music was introduced and there is now in possession of the Winchester Historical Society a violoncello originally belonging to Dwight L. Williams and the tag appended to it states that it was used by the owner for playing in the Second Church of Hartland for many years.

After the departure of the Rev. Aaron Gates, in 1846, the Rev. Pearl S. Cossitt served for one year from June, 1847 to November 1848. Then a call was given to the Rev. Charles G. Goddard who settled with them and remained their pastor from June 1850 to February, 1854, serving again after an interim of one year, during which the pulpit was supplied by the Rev. Henry A. Austin, Rev. Goddard resuming in June, 1856 and continuing until his death in August of 1872. The years of Rev. Goddard's pastorate were routine but fairly prosperous and he was a man beloved by his congregation. In 1879, the records report that the "Society received more money for the sale of slips than in any previous year." In 1880, the Society purchased from Nathaniel Gaylord, Jr., the house formerly occupied by Dr. Bosworth, and converted it into a Parish House suitable for social activities. It is apparent that up to this time no place had been available for community gatherings and it must have added a great deal to the life of the village. (The house was converted into a Hall and was used later by the Grange, eventually being sold to Stuart Clark of New Jersey who uses it as a summer home at the present time.) Upon the death of Rev. Goddard, his congregation decided that he should be buried in the exact center of the cemetery in back of the Church and this was carried out accordingly. The sentiment expressed at the time indicates that it was to be a symbol that as Shepherd of his living flock, he was continually in their center, so in

death should he be in their center also. A monument was erected over his grave to commemorate the devotion of his parishioners.

After the purchase of the Hall, the Ladies Aid became very active; and were, no doubt, a welcome addition to the Society, especially in helping raise money for various purposes. Before this time they had taken very little part in any of the Society's activities.

The Rev. Rodney L. Tabor served them as pastor from July, 1872 to September, 1874 and was followed by Gilbert A. Curtiss, a licentiate, from the Hartford Seminary, from May, 1875 to April, 1876. Then on November, 1876, a call was given to the Rev. Rolla G. Bugbee, who accepted, was ordained and served them until November, 1880. He was followed by Rev. Frederic A. Balcolm in January of 1882, leaving in 1884. These were more or less uneventful years and there are no outstanding reports of great interest. It is apparent that, on the whole, the congregation was satisfied with its ministers, and life kept on in "the even tenor of its way."

In June, 1884, the Rev. Hiram N. Gates was called and settled. It was during his pastorate that the Church building, now in use for over forty years, was discovered to be sadly in need of repair and renovation. The Ladies Aid apparently began agitation for something to be done about it. At the annual meeting held April 30, 1883, it was voted "That the Society's Committee act with the Ladies Aid Society's Committee in repair of the church." The records do not disclose the names of members comprising either committee, but under date of April 28, 1884, the following report was submitted and as it tells the whole story, we are quoting it verbatim:

"The Following Report of the Secretary of Committee
on repairs to the Ecclesiastical Society,
Made April 28, 1884."

"The committee on repairs appointed at your last annual meeting has requested me to make the following report to the Ecclesiastical Society at its meeting today.

"The first meeting of the committee was held in this place (2nd Congregational Church) on the evening of August 28, 1883. At that meeting the subject of repairs was discussed at some length. What had better be done—the probable cost—and the means at our command with which to meet the probable expense. In conclusion the committee at this meeting appointed a sub-committee consisting of Messrs. Gaylord, Griswold and Gates, to make investigation with a view to ascertaining the probable cost of the carpenter work—the renovating of the walls, and the painting of the house, both outside and in. Our resources at that time were only about \$230. cash in bank and the hope that something might be added to this from donations to be solicited from friends of the church who are residing in other parts of the country. The sub-committee made the inquiries directed and obtained an estimate from E. B. Parsons of Winsted on the carpenter work amounting to \$230. more or less—on the painting from H. H. Griswold an offer to do it for \$125., and at a meeting of the committee held October 10, 1883, reported the same. In the meantime, the committee had received \$50. from Mr. Oatman

of Hartford and the assurance from Mr. Moore that we would have no difficulty in raising what funds we might need with which to repair our house. In view of these facts, the committee felt that it would be safe to venture on the estimates and consequently ordered the sub-committee to employ Mr. Parsons to do the wood work and by vote engaged Mr. Griswold to do the painting—consequently the sub-committee engaged Mr. Parsons, and Griswold commenced the work on the shutters and walls.

"About the first of November Mr. Lent Merriman visited the place and proposed a modification of our plans. That instead of painting or calcimining the walls and ceilings of our house—we paper them. And proposing to furnish the material for \$80.89 and send a workman to put it on at \$3.50 per day and board. This proposition was regarded with so much favor by some of our members that a meeting was called November 2nd at the hall to consider it. At the full meeting of the committee the matter was thoroughly discussed and the probable total cost estimated at about \$180. Although exceeding our original estimates considerably, yet as Mr. Merriman offered to bear \$25. of the expense himself and two of our own members offered \$50. toward it and in view of the desirableness of the work over anything that had been proposed, the committee decided to accept Mr. Merrimans proposition, which was afterwards reduced by Mr. Griswold deducting \$25. from his bill on the painting.

"The papering was done according to contract and speaks for itself and cost \$165.15. The carpenter work was done but the cost of it so far exceeded the estimate given beforehand, that we were astonished and alarmed. Instead of its coming at about \$230., we found that the total cost of the labor, material and board of the men doing the work to be \$444.52—nearly twice the estimate. Mr. Griswold's bill for painting, extra labor, etc. was \$143.50. Sundry small bills for hardware, mason work, lumber and team work amounted to \$45.28, making a total cost of work on the house \$798.44.

"Of these bills we have paid \$532.15 the means to do which, have been obtained as follows:

"From the Ladies Aid Society		\$ 265.73
"From Alvah Oatman	\$ 50.00	
" Judge Wilder	50.00	
" Rev. W. H. Moore	25.00	
" Charles Goddard	10.00	
" Caleb Camp	5.00	
" George Gilman	2.00	
" Lester Gilman	10.00	152.00
" Mrs. Darwin Griffin	60.00	
" Deacon Wilcox	11.00	
" Discount on bills	6.45	77.45
" Sunday School Collections		9.10
" Discount L. Merriman		25.00
" Overpaid by N. W. Gaylord		2.87
		<hr/>
		\$ 532.15

"Leaving a balance of \$266.29. to meet which we have the pledge of Mr. Dwight Williams and sisters for \$50.00 toward the expense of papering, and a reliable subscription of \$140., leaving a balance as yet unprovided for of \$76.29.

“This report would not be complete or satisfactory to myself or to this Society did I omit to mention the efforts and efficiency of the Ladies Aid Society. Their labor and assistance in the work certainly deserves the highest commendation. In the first place they gave all the fund they had on hand and collected for us \$62.98 in all \$292.73. They then set about to cushion the house and succeeded so much beyond their expectation that they enlarged their plan so as to take in the carpeting of the house. This they have done as you can see for yourselves. The expense of this work of the Ladies has been—For the cushions \$102.40—Carpets \$62.22 Totaling \$164.62. To meet which they raised a subscription of \$137.50 nearly all of which has been collected and paid over, leaving a balance against them of about \$20.12. Thus we see that the ladies have assisted in this work to the extent of \$457.35.

“One item more and I close. Mr. Merriman writes us that he has already collected a considerable sum and proposes to collect enough more to secure for us a chandelier to ornament and light this house when needed. He has said that he hopes to get for us an \$80.00 Chandelier for which he will pay only \$60.00. When this shall come and be put into its place, the house and its furnishings will be about complete.

“If some good friend would give us a pulpit bible and a new and modern communion set, it would be complete. But to sum up the whole expenditure we have—

Repairs on house	\$ 798.44
Furnishing above	165.62
Chandelier	80.00
	<hr/>
	\$1,044.06

“On which we owe over and above our assets and including the Ladies liabilities \$96.41.

“All of which is respectfully submitted.”

H. N. Gates
Secretary Committee on Repairs

There can be no doubt that the finished job was beautiful, in their eyes, at least. Some of this wallpaper is still on the wall of the old gallery leading to the Bell Tower and is turquoise blue in color with wide borders of dark gray and gilt. One can still visualize the effect it must have produced on the congregation in conjunction with the thought that their “house” was now in good order. Heat was provided by two wood-burning stoves placed in the rear of the auditorium—their long stovepipes extending the entire length of the building and entering the corbeled chimney at the west end of the church. These were suspended from the ceiling with wires placed at frequent intervals. This method of heating continued for the succeeding 69 years.

The chandelier arrived and was installed complete with oil lamps, being the same one now in use, but, of course, wired for electricity. Apparently no one came forward to present them with a new pulpit bible for the one now (1960) in use is the one presented to them in 1848, and contains the following inscription on the fly-leaf:

"This Bible was presented to this Church & Society By Mrs. Lowly Merrills wife of Deacon L. Merrills with a heartfelt wish that both the giver & those to whom the gift is made may be abundantly enriched of its divine truths, in the present life, and afterward received to glory." P. S. C.* Hartland, January 20. 1848

*The initials P.S.C. are those of Rev. Pearl S. Cossitt who was Pastor at that time and in whose handwriting the inscription is made

Rev. Hiram N. Gates resigned as pastor in May, 1886, and again they were compelled to depend on finding someone to preach on a month-to-month basis. Money was again hard to raise and they made their first request to the "Home Missionary Society" for \$225. to carry on the work for the ensuing year.

In 1887, evidently in recognition of their good work in raising money to help repair the church building, Ladies were given an active part in the affairs of the Society for the first time. Miss Emma Gaylord was chosen Clerk and Mrs. H. H. Griswold and Mrs. Anna N. Goddard added to the Committee. It was the beginning of a new era for the Second Society. From that time until the present day—women have been in the majority—men in the minority—in connection with all phases of the religious, social and business activities of the Second Church and Society.

The year 1887 was eventful in a number of ways. It was at this time that an agreement was made with Riverton to share the same pastor on the following basis: "On the 31st of May, 1887, the Committee of the Church in conference with that of Riverton, after hearing several candidates, settled early in July to engage Rev. F. J. Nute, then of New Marlboro, Mass., to occupy the respective pulpits of the two churches for one year beginning with the first of July. The salary to be paid amounting to One Thousand dollars counting the parsonage—situated in Riverton—as one hundred. Riverton to pay three-fifths and West Hartland two-fifths. Mr. Nute to give us one service on the Sabbath at 11 A.M. and Riverton two, afternoon and evening." This same arrangement, with minor changes, is still in effect in 1960, having continued for 73 years to the mutual benefit of both Parishes so far as finances are concerned. The loss in spiritual leadership, however, in no longer having a resident minister as a constant "Shepherd of the Flock" was one of great consequence—and one from which the Second Society has never fully recovered.

It was also in 1888, apparently during the pastorate of the Rev. F. J. Nute, that the Church issued a printed "Manual of the Congregational Church of West Hartland." This manual contains a new "Confession of Faith" and "Covenant" differing substantially in content from the originals subscribed to on May 4, 1780. It appears that the changes were made to bring their spiritual activities up to date and in harmony with the changing times.

The manual also states that from the original membership of 21 males and 23 females—a total of 44 at the beginning—478 new members

had been admitted during the 108 years of the Second Society's existence.

The active members in 1888 totaled 67, listed as follows:

Beman, Mrs. Annie M.	Griswold, Mrs. Clarissa S.
Brown, Alvin D.	Griswold, Herbert H.
Brown, Mrs. Belle J.	Griswold, Mrs. Annie P.
Bushnell, Mrs. Rose Ann	Griswold, Clara L.
Carrier, Dudley H.	Griswold, William H.
Carrier, Mrs. Henrietta	Griswold, Helen L.
Carrier, Mrs. Joanna	Hitchcock, Albert W.
Coe, Harlow W.	Hitchcock, Mrs. Elizabeth A.
Coe, Mrs. Marinda	Hitchcock, Burritt C.
Coe, Trueman B.	Keep, Warren A.
Coe, Ward E.	Miller, Jonathan A.
Coe, Florence E.	Miller, Mrs. Georgiana
Deffner, Earnest	Newton, Flavel C.
Fitch, Carrie E.	Newton, Albert A.
Gates, Mrs. Sarah	Newton, Mrs. Clara I.
Gates, Hiram N.	Nickerson, Uriah N.
Gates, Mrs. Mary C.	Nickerson, Mrs. Mary L.
Gaylord, Emma H.	Pierce, James E.
Gaylord, Laura B.	Pierce, Mrs. Hensea
Gibbs, Mrs. Ellen J.	Parsons, Mrs. Jane A.
Gillette, Mrs. Belle S.	Searles, Leon D. B.
Goddard, Mrs. Anna N.	Spencer, Lucy A.
Goddard, Alice M.	Terry, Mrs. Caroline A.
Goddard, Charles P.	Terry, Frederic C.
Gorham, Cora E.	Williams, Mrs. Octavia P.
Gray, Fannie	Williams, W. Howard
Green, Mrs. Emily	Williams, Mrs. Sara E.
Griffin, Mary A.	Wilcox, Harvey L.
Griffin, Frederic D.	Wilcox, Mrs. Helen C.
	Wilcox, Julia E.

In addition, the following were listed as "Absent Members" who had moved to other localities but had not withdrawn their membership from the Church body:

Ensign, Eleazer E.	Stillman, Mrs. Harriet
Ingraham, Mrs. Alford	Stillman, Albert A.
Osborne, Ambrose A.	Stillman, Mark W.
Peck, Phineas E.	Kirkwood, Jennie

From this manual and report it is evident that the Church and Society were experiencing at this time one of the more prosperous and fruitful periods which occurred from time to time in their varied circumstances covering the previous century. It was to be short-lived, however, as such periods usually are in the history of any Church or Society.

Whether it was because of the fact that the Second Society no longer had a resident Pastor or that the Methodists were active in seeking converts is difficult to determine at this time, but the records show

that a marked decline in interest and church attendance hit the Second Society at this time and continued without interruption for the next 25 years. Dismissions to the Methodist and other churches fill the records and routine matters of little consequence were on the agendas of the Annual Meetings.

After the departure of the Rev. F. J. Nute in 1888, the ministers serving both Riverton and the Second Society in West Hartland were Rev. Frank P. Waters from November 1888 to March 1891; Rev. Clay D. Chunn from May 1891 to November 1892 and Rev. George E. Lincoln from November 1892 to November 1894. Their pastorates were of short duration and their retention or dismissal was entirely dependent upon the wishes of the Riverton Parish who controlled the situation with their three-fifths majority.

In May of 1895 Rev. George S. Richards became the Pastor of both Riverton and West Hartland churches. His ministry continued for sixteen years until he retired in November 1911. Rev. Richards, having no family, resided for the most part in West Hartland, boarding at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edward A. Gaylord. He was a man of considerable erudition but possessed of so many eccentricities that he found little favor with his bucolic parishioners. His sermons, although scholarly discourses, were seldom appreciated by his less learned listeners and it was only a short time before their numbers began to dwindle until on some Sundays only one or two of the faithful could be found in the congregation.

It was during the late 1890s that the Methodists were engaged in dismantling and moving their old church from the four corners to a new location in West Hartland Center just a few rods North of the Second Church. Many of those formerly belonging to the Second Society affiliated with the Methodists and Congregationalism in West Hartland reached an all-time low. During the sixteen years Rev. Richards served as Pastor, there was little accomplished in the way of increased religious activity and it was more a question of maintaining the "status quo" than of attempting to embark on programs designed to attract new members or increase the enthusiasm of the faithful few who struggled valiantly to keep the Second Church from closing its doors and discontinuing services altogether.

The horse and buggy were still the principal means of transportation for those who lived long distances from the Church. Although horse-sheds had been maintained for many years directly South and North of the church building, the ones on the South were torn down and a small parcel of land across the road was purchased from John L. Hitchcock and new sheds erected to shelter the teams of those attending Sunday services. Apparently the anticipated need did not materialize and the sheds soon became a storage place for farm equipment owned by local residents. Although the sheds were built about 1898, by 1930 they had fallen into such a state of dilapidation that they were removed entirely and the land on which they stood was sold to the writer in 1940.

In the years between 1911 and 1923, attempts were made in both Riverton and West Hartland to revive the flagging spirits of religion as

they applied to Congregationalism and there was some success in obtaining new members and increased interest. Rev. Lydia Hartig became the first Woman Preacher to serve the Second Society and conducted services from December 1911 to December 1912. Rev. M. Dean Moffatt also served for over one year from January 1913 to December 1914. James H. Potter, (brother of Dr. Rockwell Harmon Potter or "Mr. Congregational" as he is more familiarly known) served as a licentiate while attending the Hartford Seminary, from October 1915 to August 1916.

Beginning in 1917, during the period of the First World War, both the Congregationalists and Methodists found themselves having increased difficulties in raising money enough to support preaching in both churches. Rev. P. Harry Dodd, a Methodist, was engaged as pastor for both churches in West Hartland, serving in that capacity from April, 1917 to April, 1922. Rev. Dodd did not preach in the Riverton Church but did supply the Methodist Church in Colebrook River, maintaining his residence in the Methodist Parsonage in West Hartland. This arrangement of sharing the same Pastor contributed in great measure to the Federation of both Congregational and Methodist Societies which immediately followed.

In 1922, Rev. Warren E. Wheeler, although retired from the ministry, consented to supply the pulpit of the Congregational Church and, in spite of his advanced years, began at once to effect a workable Federation of Methodist and Congregational Societies which was accomplished in a few short months and was officially adopted in September of 1923. It was at this time that the members of both societies displayed a high degree of good common sense seldom encountered under similar situations.

Under the terms of the Federation, both Societies retained their individual identities so far as their tenents of religious doctrine were concerned and each Society maintained its own church officers and membership. Both societies contributed equally to the common cause of supporting the gospel by sharing the expense of the Pastor's salary but each was to be responsible for the maintenance of its own property and buildings. The Congregational Church was designated as the place for worship and the Methodist Church building became a Community House for the benefit of all. A Comity Committee consisting of equal representation from both Societies provided for the settlement of all grievances. The Federation proved a success from the beginning and has been functioning harmoniously for some 38 years. The remaining history of the Second Church and Society must of necessity be considered in the light of its federated activities for there are many of the Methodist faith who have contributed since the federation to its present state of harmony and well-being.

Due to ill health and the infirmities of age, Rev. Warren E. Wheeler resigned in August, 1926 and was succeeded by Rev. William V. Sweetland who occupied the parsonage in Riverton and preached in West Hartland during the morning services. The Sunday evening services and weekly prayer meetings were discontinued around 1920 and,

with the exception of a few "hymn-sings" held occasionally during the summer months, have never been resumed.

In April of 1929, Rev. Sweetland submitted his resignation and Rev. Edmund L. Smiley became pastor of the Riverton and West Hartland churches in September of the same year. At various times he also served the East Hartland and Barkhamsted Congregational Churches on a temporary basis. His pastorate in Riverton and West Hartland continued for fourteen years and he was a man devoted to his profession and beloved by his congregations.

It was during Rev. Smiley's pastorate that the One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of the Second Society occurred. A two-day celebration was held on August 2nd and 3rd, 1930 to commemorate the event. A printed "Historical Sketch of The West Hartland Church" was written and prepared for the occasion by Rev. Smiley containing a great amount of information relating to the early church activities. Services were held both morning and afternoon and a general "old home day" atmosphere prevailed among those who had come many miles to attend the church of their childhood or that of their ancestors. The sermon at the morning service was given by the Rev. Raymond N. Gilman, pastor of the Stanley Memorial Congregational Church of New Britain, Connecticut, whose ancestors owned and occupied for many years the house immediately South of the Church building. The speaker for the afternoon service was the Rev. Sherrod Soule, whose activities as Superintendent of the Connecticut Missionary Society "has endeared him to us and to every rural church in Connecticut." Special music and refreshments made the program one to be remembered for many years by those fortunate enough to have been a participant in the event.

Although the population of Hartland reached an all-time low during the 1920's, nevertheless, there was renewed interest in religious matters and the West Hartland church gained in membership although struggling to obtain the necessary finances for operation through the depression years. When Rev. Smiley retired and left to take up his residence in Maine in August of 1943, after fourteen years of continuous labor, it was with great regret that his congregation bade him farewell.

Following Rev. Smiley's departure, a period of preacher uncertainty set in and continued for three years. During that time the Rev. Otto J. Schiebe of Granby, although retired, kindly consented to supply the pulpit when his health would permit and preached intermittently from October, 1943 to June, 1945. Rev. Watson Woodruff, also retired, filled in on those occasions when Rev. Scheibe was unable to attend. Both of these ministers were men of great courage and although laboring under extreme hardships of ill health, won the love and admiration of their congregations. Rev. Carolyn Welch, the second woman preacher in the Second Church, served from July 1st, 1945 to December 25, 1945, and was followed by Rev. Norman MacLeod, an army chaplain, from May 5, 1946 until August 11, 1946.

It was not until Rev. John Lang, also a former army chaplain, came and settled in October, 1946, that the Church was definitely sure of having a preacher at the Sunday morning service. Rev. Lang occupied the

parsonage in Riverton and served both parishes. Possessed of a fine first tenor voice, he was soon in demand by choirs and male choruses. He added much to the musical activity of the church. His pastorate continued until May, 1950, when he left for a larger church in Westbrook, Connecticut. His four years' service was marked by an era of extreme good-will. The Second World War had come to an end and interest in religion appeared to be on the increase. It was easier to raise money for church expenses and no momentuous questions arose to require serious consideration by either pastor or congregation. The younger generation began to take a more active part in church activities and to willingly assume responsibilities formerly delegated to the older members.

The year 1951 brought the Rev. John H. Moseley to the pastorate of the Federated Church. Beginning in April of that year and continuing until his death in January of 1960, the period of his service was distinguished by continued progress in matters spiritual and a complete renovation of the church building. Occupying the parsonage in Riverton and also serving that parish as Pastor, Rev. Moseley and his wife, Sara, soon won the love and devotion of both congregations.

By 1951, no major repairs having been made to the church building since 1884, after a period of 67 years the western end of the building had settled in the ground. A new floor and sills needed to be installed as well as renewing the foundation under part of the building. In addition, the plastered ceiling and side walls had to be renewed in several places. Available funds were insufficient to pay for items other than the actual material required, but through the generosity of a small group donating much in the way of labor, love and devotion to the cause, the building was restored and once more became a sanctuary in which a restful atmosphere and quiet dignity contributed to the contemplation of things eternal.

Mrs. George R. Crunden was general chairman of the Committee on Repairs, and her husband, George R. Crunden, a local building contractor, supplied the supervision and did most of the work without compensation. Assisting him were W. Helmas Emerick, Carl Nelson, Stanley A. Ransom and others. Walter E. Cole, Jr., a local mason, did the plastering of the side-walls and ceiling; donating both time and material. The building was painted inside and out and new carpeting obtained for the floor. A mural oil painting depicting a primitive version of the XXIII Psalm was painted on the plaster wall in back of the pulpit by Stanley A. Ransom. New drapes were obtained for the windows and the old wood stoves with their long lengths of pipe were removed and a more modern oil-heater installed. Landscaping was added to the front of the building resulting in a most harmonious effect to the natural rustic setting of the structure.

Repairs and renovations were completed by mid-summer of 1953, and on August 11, 1953, it being the occasion of the traditional "Old Home Day", a dedication service was held to ask God's blessing on the work accomplished and to renew and rededicate the faith of those assembled in their objective to work for the further advancement of God's kingdom on earth. Rev. Dr. Rockwell Harmon Potter delivered the



Psalm XXIII

*Mural Painting 8' x 13' on Wall of Second Congregational Church,
Painted by Stanley A. Ransom*

dedication sermon and chose for his text: "He Leadeth Me Beside Still Waters", part of the phraseology of the XXIII Psalm. Mrs. Stanley A. Ransom sang "The Good Shepherd" and the theme of the entire service was based on the Psalm portrayed by the mural.

With the restoration of the building and the good works of Rev. John Moseley, new interest developed in things spiritual and the church experienced a steady progress in attendance and willingness of its membership to meet the financial obligations necessary for its continued prosperity. A Youth Choir was formed, under the direction of Mrs. Donald Swift, who gave unstintingly of her time and substance to make it one of the outstanding groups in this section. Mrs. Stanley A. Ransom succeeded Mrs. Swift as director and continues in that capacity.

The 175th Anniversary of the Second Ecclesiastical Society occurred on May 4th, 1955, but the celebration in commemoration of the event was held on August 14th, 1955, in conjunction with the annual "Old Home Day" which has become a yearly tradition since 1930. A special program featuring church music of the late eighteenth century was given under the direction of Mr. Lawrence Madison, using some of the old church tunes written and composed by Timothy Olmsted. Timothy Olmsted lived in West Hartland from 1780 to 1800 and was considered one of the foremost teachers and composers of Church music in the State of Connecticut at that time. The anniversary sermon was given by Rev. Hollis M. French, pastor of the Methodist churches in Moosup and Oneco, Connecticut, the History of the Second Society was given by the

writer. A social hour followed at the Community House and the attendance was the largest of any church event of recent years; friends coming from great distances to participate in the celebration.

(Five days later this section was hit by the Great Flood of August 19th, 1955, but fortunately no damage was experienced in West Hartland, although the parsonage in Riverton occupied by Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Moseley was inundated almost to the second floor, destroying much of their furniture and possessions. Their faith was equal to the occasion, however, and disregarding their own loss and hardships, it was only a short time before they were active in relieving the sufferings of others and by sympathetic acts and deeds endeared themselves to the residents of both parishes.)

This history would not be complete without mentioning the important part women of the community have played in connection with the life of the Church. Beginning in 1884 as the Ladies' Aid Society, we have recounted their splendid work in raising money for the restoration of the building at that time. Over the years they have been the source of leadership in providing those things which make a Church a home—but which men of themselves might consider unimportant. Their names, some of them long forgotten, are legion and too numerous to mention here, but their good works continue. When the Federation was consummated in 1923, the name of their organization was changed to "The Ladies' Guild". By means of Card Parties, pot-luck dinners and numerous other activities, they continue to raise the additional revenues so sorely needed to carry on the work of a country church.

The years from 1955 to 1960 were fruitful and marked by increases in baptisms and memberships. The Youth Choir sponsored a number of projects—procuring their own robes and providing for the outdoor flood lighting of the church at night as well as inaugurating Candle-light services at Easter and on Christmas Eve. The harmony between pastor and members of the congregation continued unabated and the entire community supported to the best of their individual abilities, the work of maintaining and spreading the Gospel from the little Church on the West Mountain.

The death of Rev. John H. Moseley in January of 1960, came as a distinct shock to his devoted congregation in West Hartland. The seriousness of his illness had not been fully realized and the loss became deep and lasting. He was a man of strong and sterling character—a true Christian. In June of 1959, he had completed fifty consecutive years in the ministry of Christ—most of it spent in the service of small country churches. A man caring little for personal honors or aggrandizement—his deep concern was the spiritual welfare of others. The subsequent removal to the home of her son by his wife, Sara, also left an aching void in the hearts of those many friends who came to know and appreciate her work in the Sunday School and other church activities. Possessed of a striking personality and lovable disposition, she endeared herself to both old and young alike. Their ministrations in West Hartland will be long remembered by those fortunate enough to have had an opportunity of sharing in their good work and affection.

The darkness and gloom of the situation caused by the loss of the Moseleys was dispelled by the arrival of the present pastor, Rev. Richard J. Nordgren, a young man enrolled as a student at the Hartford Theological Seminary.

In keeping with the trend of the times and in order to modernize and stream-line the business affairs of the Second Church, it was considered expedient by many of the members to eliminate the functions of the Second Ecclesiastical Society and organize the Church as a body corporate, for religious purposes. On September 20, 1960, after proper notice to all members and after considerable debate, pro and con, it was voted "To discontinue the Second Ecclesiastical Society and to organize the Church body as a new Corporation." The vote was made unanimous.

At a meeting of the Second Ecclesiastical Society, held on the following evening, September 21, 1960, it was voted "to terminate the Second Ecclesiastical Society as of November 21, 1960, the interim to be used for the officers of the S.E.S. to turn over all the assets and liabilities of the discontinued Society to the new corporation." This vote was also made unanimous. Accordingly, application was made to the Secretary of State and the new organization created in November, 1960 chose the name of THE SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF HARTLAND, INC.; proceeded to elect officers and now functions completely within the borders of its own framework, no longer dependent upon the dictates of the Second Society, the membership of which at various times consisted of individuals not members of the Church body.

In the 181 years of its existence, the Second Ecclesiastical Society reflected the life of the Church and community which it served so well and faithfully and whose membership, for the most part, consisted of those who were held in high esteem in both church and civic circles. A Society possessing great responsibility and authority at its inception, with power to conduct and regulate the religious, educational and social activities of the entire area within its jurisdiction; the separation of Church and State reduced its activity and confined its actions solely to religious matters. It is impossible in this brief history to adequately record their continual struggle to obtain ministers, raise money and carry on the work of the church, sometimes under the most adverse circumstances. Souls less hardy and dedicated would have given up in despair on many occasions. Over the years their numbers were many—their names lost to the present generation, except as they appear in the scanty records which they left for posterity. Space permits only one citation which may be construed as typical of many others. A footnote in the record of the Annual Meeting of the Society, held April 28, 1890, states: "Dwight L. Williams died last night, April 27, 1890, Age 80. He attended every societies' annual meeting since 1834." This simple statement summarizes the long and devoted service of many more in the same category, whose only hope of reward was that their lives would be "abundantly enriched by the divine truths" which they sought to promulgate and that their souls might be "afterward received to Glory".

The Second Ecclesiastical Society of Hartland is no more. Many of its early members and pastors sleep peacefully in the little churchyard close to the Meeting House, oblivious to the icy blasts of winter or the pleasant warmth of summer suns. To walk among their resting-places and view their modest head-stones is a means of inspiration to the living—for like the inscription on the head-stone of their first pastor, Rev. Nathaniel W. Gaylord—“Though dead, he yet speaketh,”—these words may be applied to all those who labored so long and faithfully “in the vineyard of the Lord”.

The little white Meeting House still stands atop the West Mountain. The bell presented in 1835 still sends its mellow voice across the country-side—calling the faithful to worship on a Sunday morning—regardless of their individual religious doctrines or creeds. The pulpit Bible presented in 1848 still graces the lectern and “Old Hundred” is still sung by the congregation. Physical appearances and names have changed since the days of the founding fathers and those who came after them but their good works follow in the labors of the present generation—federated now in their endeavors to advance Christian unity and God’s Kingdom on Earth.

Perhaps the Psalmist had a similar situation in mind when he penned the words of CXXXLII:

“Behold how good and how pleasant it is for Brethren
to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious
ointment upon the head . . . ”

NAMES OF MINISTERS SERVING THE SECOND
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF HARTLAND

With Dates of Settlement, Dismissal, and Death If Known

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Settled</i>		<i>Dismissed</i>		<i>Died</i>	
Nathaniel Gaylord	Jan.	1782	—		April	1841
William Ely		1823		1824		1850
Adolphus Ferry	Nov.	1824	—		April	1832
John A. Hempsted	Oct.	1833	Sept.	1835		
Luke Wood	Oct.	1838	May	1842	Aug.	1851
Aaron Gates	May	1843	April	1846	April	1850
Pearl S. Cossitt	June	1847	Nov.	1848		
Charles G. Goddard	June	1850	Feb.	1854		
Henry A. Austin	May	1854		1855		
Charles G. Goddard	June	1856		1872	Aug.	1872
Rodney L. Tabor	July	1872	Sept.	1874		
Gilbert A. Curtiss, Lic.	May	1875	April	1876		1908
Rolla G. Bugbee	Nov.	1876	Nov.	1880		1914
Frederic A. Balcolm	Jan.	1882	May	1884		
Hiram N. Gates	June	1884	May	1886		1902
F. I. Nute	July	1887	Aug.	1888		

Frank P. Waters	Nov.	1888	Mar.	1891	1920
Clay D. Chunn	May	1891	Nov.	1892	
George E. Lincoln	Nov.	1892	Nov.	1894	1913
George S. Richards	May	1895	Nov.	1911	
Lydia Hartig	Dec.	1911	Dec.	1912	
M. Dean Moffatt	Jan.	1913	Dec.	1914	
James H. Potter, Lic.	Oct.	1915	Aug.	1916	
P. Harry Dodd (Meth.)	April	1917	Apr.	1922	

THE SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH AND THE
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCHES OF WEST HARTLAND
WERE FEDERATED IN SEPTEMBER OF 1923

Names of Ministers Serving Under the Federation

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Settled</i>		<i>Dismissed</i>		<i>Died</i>	
Warren E. Wheeler	April	1923	Aug.	1926		
William V. Sweetland	Sept.	1926	April	1929		
Edmund L. Smiley	Sept.	1929	Aug.	1943		
Otto J. Scheibe	Oct.	1943	Nov.	1943		
Watson Woodruff	March	1944	Dec.	1944		
Otto J. Scheibe	March	1945	June	1945		
Carolyn Welch	July	1945	Dec.	1945		
Norman MacLeod	May	1946	Aug.	1946		
John Lang	Oct.	1946	May	1950		
John H. Moseley	April	1951	Jan.	1960	Jan.	1960
Richard J. Nordgren	March	1960	Present	Pastor		

NAMES OF DEACONS SERVING THE SECOND CHURCH
AND SOCIETY DURING THE FIRST 100 YEARS

With Dates of Their Service

Abel Brace	1782 to 1795
Israel Williams	1784 to 1812
John Wilder	1794 to 1805
Edmund Beach	1804 to 1815
Abiathar Newton	1812 to 1833
Childs Taylor	1815 to 1829
John M. Case	1829 to 1834
Lyman Merrill	1833 to 1840
Abiathar Newton	1834 to 1841
Richard Marks	1840 to 1859
Elias Gilman	1843 to 1854
Samuel C. Newton	1844 to 1880
Charles M. Vaughan	1868 to 1870
Samuel B. Gilman	1855 to 1867
Harvey L. Wilcox	1871 to 1902
Flavel C. Newton	1880 to 1905

From 1900 to 1960 the office of Deacon has been more or less dormant in the Second Society. Most of the Annual Meetings of the Society during this period failed to appoint or elect one of their members to this office—once considered a very important and highly respectable position; a mark of distinction to the incumbent second only to the Pastor in local prestige and esteem.



—Courtesy Olga Dean

*Methodist Church Building, West Hartland.
(Built in 1897. Discontinued as a church in 1923. Now used as
Community Hall.)*

THE HISTORY OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN WEST HARTLAND

Methodism in West Hartland may be said to have begun with the establishment of the Granville Circuit on June 20, 1795, when two riders were assigned to cover a large part of Hartford County in Connecticut as well as Granville and other towns in Massachusetts. The Beech Hill

Church in Granville became the center of the Circuit Riders who made periodic trips throughout their territory, preaching in the homes of the interested brethren before church buildings were erected.

Billy Hibbard who had been appointed to the Granville Circuit in 1800 and again in 1816 and 1817, mentions in his "Memoirs"—"that many in Hartland were converted in a good revival of religion".

The first Methodist Church building in West Hartland was built in 1834 about one mile south from West Hartland Center on the northwest corner of the cross-roads, one leading from West Granville to Barkhamsted and the other from East Hartland to Hitchcocksville (Riverton). Land for the structure was donated by Rideout Moore who operated a Tavern on the opposite corner. A Methodist class had existed for some years before the church was erected, and meetings held at the homes of the several members.

The early records of the West Hartland Methodist Church have been lost or destroyed and the first official record on file is that contained in the present Methodist Record Book whose first entries indicate that recording was begun in 1892.

Under the heading of "Historical Record" the entries are as follows:

"1834-1892: The first Methodist Church in West Hartland was built in the year 1834, the Society having met for worship in private homes for some years before. The structure was erected nearly a mile south of the Center, at a junction where four roads meet, the work being largely due to the enterprise and energy of the Tiffany family. Divine Service was conducted in the church for a long series of years, but eventually there were intervals when there was no stationed minister and its doors were closed. During the period of the church's history, among the presiding elders who officiated were: The Rev. Messrs. Nash, Barnes and Hubbell, while of the preachers-in-charge may be mentioned the names of Robert Codlin, McCoy, Marcus Delevan, Curtis, Northrop, Zarvel, O. J. Ranje, and W. W. Hard."

"1892-1894: In the beginning of the year 1892, the church up to that time having been closed for some years, the Rev. F. B. Adams was appointed as resident minister, he having previously entered the neighborhood as an Evangelist. Under the ministry of this earnest brother, there was a general awakening to religious life and purpose in the district and permanent good accomplished, the Society have become re-organized and re-established. The Presiding Elder for 1892 was Rev. J. W. Beach, D.D., he being succeeded the next year by Rev. Crandall J. North. Brother Adams concluded his ministry at the beginning of the year 1894."

"1894-1896: During these two years the Rev. Crandall J. North continued as Presiding Elder. The preacher-in-charge was the Rev. George Bennett, Jr., who had come to Connecticut from England about a year previously. During this brother's ministry, energetic efforts were directed toward the building of a new church edifice, the existing structure having become very dilapidated and unfit for divine worship. Enthusiasm was aroused, a subscription-

list opened, voluntary labor offered and through the blessing of God the basis of the enterprise was laid."

"In the years from 1896 to 1899, the preacher-in-charge was Rev. J. N. Crane, and it was during his first year that the new church was commenced and nearly completed, the pastor preaching most of the time in the brick parsonage and living at a farm-house 2½ miles away. In the early part of the second year the new church was completed and dedicated June 10, 1897. When the church was commenced there was about \$750. subscribed; when it was dedicated this was increased to over \$1500. which still left between \$400. and \$500. debt, the building costing about \$2,000."

"1899-1900: Rev. Myron R. French made a good record and served his community well." (Still living at this time, 1961.)

"1901-1902: Rev. James Taylor, resigned on account of poor health.

"1902-1903: Rev. John P. Hillerby, resigned to go to supply a charge.

"1903-1905: Rev. H. I. Thayer—during his pastorate the church enjoyed great material and a fairly good spiritual prosperity. The debt of \$450. was paid and a new bell costing \$50. was installed. The church and parsonage were painted at an actual cost of about \$30. for materials, the work being done by the pastor and people. A new organ was purchased at a cost of \$50., and the benevolent collections for the two years amounted to \$160., while the pastor's salary was paid in full, \$200. each year.

"In April 1905, Rev. Thomas Booth was appointed to charge, coming here directly from England, and found a church free from debt, an energetic, sympathetic and enthusiastic community. At a Quarterly meeting held Oct. 6, 1907, Rev. Booth was given permission to resign to take up new duties in the West. During his ministry in West Hartland many improvements had been made to the parsonage, the money being provided by the Ladies' Aid.

"Jan. 1, 1908 the Rev. T. E. F. Morton, a missionary from India, on a visit in this country, was appointed to the church and served until April; the Rev. Mr. Sizer coming to the charge and staying until April 1, 1909.

"Rev. George W. Eastland was appointed as pastor April 1, 1909, and reappointed for four more years. Interest throughout the years was good and the attendance large. He and his family were much beloved by the whole community."

Succeeding Rev. Mr. Eastland were Rev. W. D. Hull in 1914, Rev. Alfred E. Race in 1915; Rev. Robert Thorne in 1916, and the Rev. Mr. Eastman.

Rev. P. Harry Dodd served both the Methodist and Congregational Churches from 1917 to 1922, preaching the Sunday morning services in the 2nd Congregational Church, and was the last Methodist minister to reside in the parsonage adjacent to the church building.

For several years after the federation in 1923, the Methodist Church edifice was little used and soon became in need of major repairs. A renovation program began in the 1940's which restored the building to its present state, much of the work being accomplished by volunteer labor and individual contributions.

At present the Hartland Historical Society houses its collection of historical material in one room of the building.

Methodism in West Hartland has not entirely vanished from the scene. Although federated with the Second Congregational Church since 1923, some 25 members of the Methodist Society still maintain their individual identity and labor to keep alive the enthusiasm which for a time, at least, made Methodism a vital force in the religious life of the community.

HISTORY OF BETHANY LUTHERAN FREE CHURCH

(by Rev. Stanley Dokken, Pastor)

Bethany Lutheran Free Church of East Hartland, Connecticut was organized September 8, 1941, in the home of Rev. T. B. Tergesen with a charter communicant membership of 19. The present communicant membership is 80. Nearly all of these members had formerly lived in Brooklyn or New York, N. Y., and had been active members of their local churches. As these people moved out of the cities and settled in new homes in East Hartland, they immediately sought Christian fellowship among those of kindred faith.

Sometime before the organization of the congregation, they met in the various homes for fellowship meetings. This led first to the organization of the Hilltop Mission Society, a ladies' society still functioning for the promotion of missions, and later, to the organization of the Congregation.

As the name indicates, the Congregation was organized as a Lutheran Church and thereby accepts the Lutheran confession of faith and teaches according to it. One distinguishing mark of the Congregation, however, is its practice in regard to membership. The Congregation is organized, in accordance with New Testament teaching, of only believers, who not only accept the Lutheran confession of faith, but also confess Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour and by the testimony of their lives show that they are real Christians. One therefore does not automatically become a member of the Church at time of Confirmation, but must be individually accepted by the Congregation upon the recommendation of the pastor and the Board of Elders at a business meeting. Another distinctive practice of this Lutheran congregation, as well as the Synod to which it belongs, is its form of worship which is often referred to as a low-church worship. In contrast to a more symbolic form of worship, it is simple, informal worship, in which the preaching of the Word of God is the central feature.

Bethany Lutheran Congregation belongs to the Church of the Lutheran Brethren of America. It joined the synod in 1943. The synod has its headquarters in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where our Lutheran Brethren Schools, namely, Hillcrest Lutheran Academy and the Luther-



Bethany Lutheran Free Church, East Hartland, Connecticut

—Courtesy Rev. Stanley Dokken

an Bible School and Seminary, are located. A number of the young people of the Congregation have attended our Schools, especially Hillcrest Lutheran Academy. Through the channels of our synod, the Congregation actively supports our Schools and gives regularly and generously to our foreign missions in Africa, Japan, and Formosa. For a number of years, the Congregation, together with the other organizations of the Church, has carried part support of a missionary family in Japan.

The Congregation secured its first Church home in June of 1943, when Pastor Tergesen's house was purchased. It was later remodeled to serve as a Church home. In the Fall of 1951, an upstairs apartment was added for a Parsonage.

At a special business meeting on July 10, 1952, the Congregation thankfully accepted the lot given by one of its members for the building of the Church. At the quarterly business meeting in September it was decided to begin building in the Spring of 1953 as soon as the weather would permit. Plans progressed rapidly and the work was begun. On Sunday afternoon, March 22, 1953, the Congregation gathered to celebrate the ground breaking. On June 28, 1953, the corner-stone was laid and on November 8, 1953, the new Church was dedicated.

In 1956, a new parsonage was also built. It was dedicated on July 15, 1956. Both the church and the parsonage were built for the most part by the men of the church, working in the evenings and on Saturdays. The splendid cooperation, the generous gifts as well as donations of time and material, made it possible for the Congregation to complete the buildings without a mortgage.

The following have served as pastors of the Congregation:

T. B. Tergesen (responsible pastor)	1941-1943
Theodore Thompson (part-time)	1943-1945
C. K. Randoy	1945-1946
L. H. Lillestolen	1948-1951
Stanley Dokken	1951 present pastor

Organizations that function within the church are the Sunday School with an enrollment of 104 and a staff of 17, the Young People's Society, the Hilltop Mission Society, the Children's Service, the Choir and Stringband, and the Junior Choir.

CHAPTER VI

The Cemeteries

THE EAST HARTLAND CEMETERY

The Hartland Green Burying Ground, as it was originally called, began with a meeting of the selectmen held on September 16th, 1766 at the dwelling house of Daniel Ensign, when it was voted "to lay out 2 acres on Parsonage Lot on East Mountain also 2 acres on West Mountain the same." At a Town Meeting held Dec. 25th, that same year, it was reported by Joshua Giddings and Jason Millard that they did—

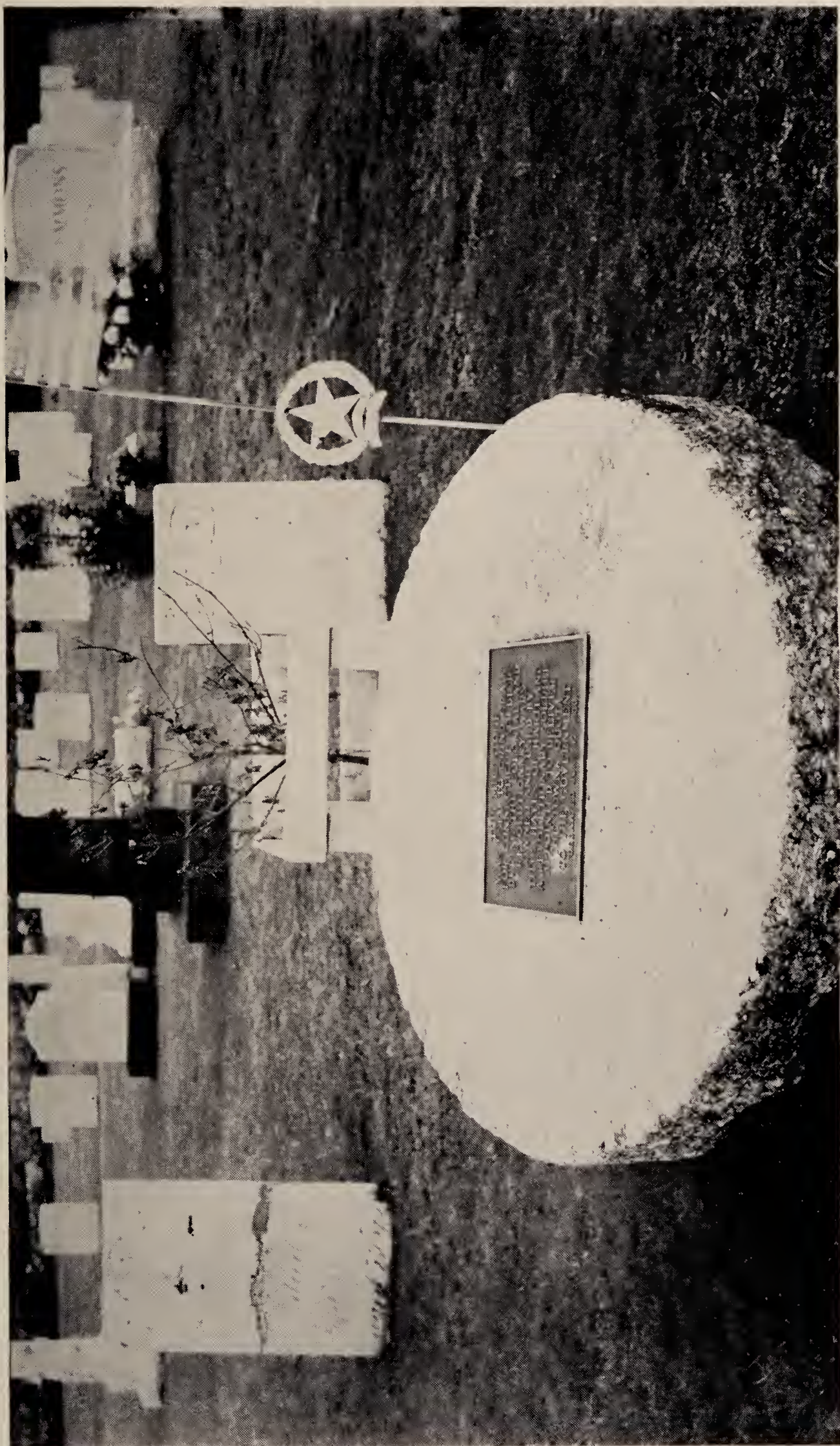
"on Nov. 25, 1766 lay a burying place beginning a little east of meeting stake, beginning by the highway a stake and stones by it, thence running easterly by the highway twenty rods to a stake and stones by it, thence running north 16 rods to a stake and stones, then turning west and running 20 rods to stake and stones, thence turning south 16 rods to the first starting.

by Joshua Giddings) Selectmen,
Jason Millard)
Thomas Giddings, Clerk."

Although the ground was selected and laid out by the selectmen, the first Ecclesiastical Society had jurisdiction over it until the East Hartland Cemetery Association was incorporated and assumed control on June 22, 1916. David N. Gaines was sexton for over 50 years and was one of the pioneers in organizing the Cemetery Association and developing the program which has restored the cemetery to its present state of excellent preservation. Associated with him were Edward P. Jones and Edward H. Knight. Others who were instrumental in forming the association were Ida E. Hayes, Edward E. Emmons, Irving D. Emmons, Constant W. Gower, Frederick H. Jones, Edgar B. Case, Lawrence B. Ransome, Robert W. Hayes, and N. M. Wright.

David N. Gaines has quite a complete history of the cemetery as it was in the early days, and the following are extracts taken from his notebook on the subject:

"At a meeting held Dec. 27, 1826 it was voted to raise money to purchase a hearse and build a hearse house and fence the burying ground 1¼¢ on a dollar. The front fence was built first. Wm. Selby, Jr. must have built it for he was paid \$7.00. Samuel Skinner, Lester Loomis, Samuel Gates the committee. The fence they built was a board fence. The



—Courtesy Lewis S. Mills

View of East Hartland Cemetery showing millstone used by Titus Hayes to grind grain for Revolutionary Soldiers and grandchild of the historic Charter Oak, dedicated June 17, 1930.

boards were about 3 inches wide with a board painted red on top for a cap. In Oct. 1844 it was voted to sell the hearse harness and repair the hearse house. This stood up on east side of yard very near center, north and south in northwest corner of the garden as it is now. It was sold to Wm. W. Clark in 1866 and he moved it over west of his place then. Mrs. Kate E. Hyde owns it now (Key No. 68) and uses it for a hog-pen in southwest corner of her lot. They used to let the burying ground out to be pastured and the proceeds went to help pay for ringing the bell and sweeping the church. I find a good many votes to that effect.

"It was voted on the 7th of Oct. 1851 to invite the inhabitants of the Society to meet on the 25th of the month (Oct.) for the purpose of clearing the burying ground of stones, bushes, and other nuisances. John Gates, Watson Gibbons, Committee. Aaron Gates and Luke Loomis were a committee appointed to trade land with Joel Miner. They let him have land on east end and took the same number of rods of his land on the north end as it is now. See June 8, 1809, Vol. 6 page 305 also 328. Then on Jan. 30, 1900 the Society bought of Emma C. and B. B. Case, or paid them \$25. for a strip of land to save a lawsuit, for said land already belonged to the Society by 1766 (See Vol. 16-42 also see Vol. 16 page 636.)"

Edward P. Jones in a report to the East Hartland Cemetery Association under date of June 24, 1950 includes several historical items in connection with the cemetery, and the following are extracts taken from this report:

"In the early days drovers from Connecticut went as far north as Vermont and returned with cattle and sheep which were driven to Connecticut. From Albany they came over the Hartford and Albany Turnpike which runs in an almost straight line from Hartford to Albany . . . Over this road the cattle and sheep were driven from Albany. When they reached East Hartland the animals were placed in the burying-ground and the drovers rested in the taverns. Here they stayed for several days, buying, selling and trading. The burying-ground furnished grass for the cattle and sheep, and the taverns furnished the liquid refreshment for the men. When no more business could be done in East Hartland they moved along toward Hartford.

"Before the cemetery was taken over by the Association the grass was mowed with a scythe. Much of the time it was high and uncut. Low blueberry bushes had grown in many parts and the whole cemetery presented a very untidy appearance. The head-stones were not set with any regularity, and the entire grounds needed attention. The land which originally was set aside as a 'burying place' was covered with stones left at the time of the glacial period. Continuous improvements have been made since the Association was formed. First all stone markers were removed and the cemetery ploughed and harrowed. After the blueberry roots were removed, the surface was graded and resurfaced; all stones re-set and monuments placed in their original positions.

"Land at the north end of the cemetery was purchased by David N. Gaines with money obtained from the Estate

of Oliver Cowdrey. A memorial fund of \$100. was also deposited in Mr. Cowdrey's name. We now see the foresight shown by Mr. Gaines for if the land had not been purchased, there would have been no place for the bodies brought from the Hartland Hollow Cemetery."

"Near the center of the cemetery is a grandchild of the old Charter Oak set out June 17, 1930 by Governor Trumbull assisted by Wilbur Miller, first selectman of Hartland, just north of Deacon Jones' lot. This was at the time of the patriotic celebration commemorating Bunker Hill Day . . .

"Near this Charter Oak was set a gristmill stone which was owned and used by Titus Hayes in Hartland Hollow for grinding grain for the soldiers of the Revolution. A bronze tablet costing \$125.00 was placed on this stone. Mr. Hayes was the official miller in Hartland for the duration of the war. Lilies were set out near the Charter Oak which were brought from the Hayes dooryard in Hartland Hollow, and a lye stone obtained in Barkhamsted was placed nearby. This stone is now used as a seat and is covered with vines. The lye stone originally had a circular cut in the upper surface. On the lye stone was placed a barrel of ashes through which water was poured. The potash water which drained through was collected and boiled with soaps and fats from the kitchen. This made the soft soap used by the earlier generation.

"Across the main drive is a second grist mill stone taken from the old Hayes mill, set on edge and used as a memorial for Mr. and Mrs. David N. Gaines.

"A noon stone which originally set in front of the blacksmith shop in North Becket and owned by Nathaniel Taggert has been placed on the left side of the main drive. Mr. Taggert's granddaughter, Polly, married John, son of The Rev. Aaron Church of Hartland. This was the reason the noon stone was brought to East Hartland. On the south side of the noon-stone is placed a stone post and from the post is cut a groove to the opposite side of the stone. This groove is cut exactly north and south. When it is exactly noon the shadow of the stone post reaches the groove—hence its name. Near the noon-stone is set a small stone hand basin. There is a story which relates that in the early days a certain Hartland man was in the habit of returning home in a tipsy condition. One day when his wife saw him coming she hid the wash basin. After a heated discussion he said, 'Well, old woman, I will bring home a wash basin that you cannot hide!' Later he produced this stone basin.

"Near the northeast corner of the cemetery is a stone that has been struck by lightning. Cemetery stones that have been struck by lightning are exceptionally rare. This stone was brought from the Hartland Hollow Cemetery.

"On each side of the main entrance a grandchild of the old Charter Oak has been set out in memory of Captain Israel and Colonel Israel Jones, and inside the front fence is a row of 6 of these Charter Oaks set out in memory of the officers above the rank of Captain in the Revolutionary War. It is said that this is the only row of 6 Charter Oaks anywhere in Connecticut. A row of 25 oaks and 25 hard maples have been set out on the east and west sides of the cemetery in memory of 50 officers who served in the Revolution. On each side of the entrance is a tall

stone post which supports the front gates. These stone posts came from the old chair shop foundation in Robertsville. When they were set, new gates were added. In front of the cemetery there is an old stone horse-block and hitching post, and in front of the fence, settings of blue Chinese iris have been placed. In all 350 settings of flowers were added a few years ago. In front of the cemetery is a row of stone posts with iron rings. In the olden days horses were hitched to stone posts. These iron rings are set in sulphur, and David Gaines remembered as a boy keeping the fire burning so the sulphur might not get cold . . .

"At the north end of the cemetery 356 small pine trees were set out some years ago in memory of the Privates of Hartland who fought in the Revolutionary War."

Within recent years the stone walls on the east and west side of the cemetery have been rebuilt, restoring it as nearly as possible to its original appearance. Its high elevation and the care and attention given by the present Cemetery Association make it a most attractive spot as a final resting place for those early settlers who first laid out this plot when Hartland was a wilderness.

The present officers of the East Hartland Cemetery Association are

President	Rev. Willard Carter
Vice President	Mrs. Gladwin Parmelee
Secretary-Treasurer	Dr. Roderick B. Jones
Sexton	James Ransom

THE WEST HARTLAND CEMETERY

Although the vote taken in connection with the laying out of the East Hartland Cemetery on September 16, 1766 mentions two acres to be laid out on the West Mountain for the purpose of a burying place, there is no record of a report from the selectmen to the effect that this was done at that time.

The Second Ecclesiastical Society was not formed until May 1780, and as outlined in the history of this society, the Parsonage and Minister's Lots were exchanged with Samuel Talcott for land some two miles north of their original location. In the exchange, the lot selected for the Minister was approximately one-half mile north of the Meeting House. The records are obscure as to how and why the land was obtained or the site selected, for the Meeting House was so far away from the Parsonage and Minister's Lots. Tradition has the Meeting House built over part of the burying ground, but there is no evidence to substantiate this statement.

The oldest grave in the cemetery is that of Mr. Daniel Adkins, who died in 1777. This grave is approximately two rods west of the Meeting House which indicates that location being used for burial purposes be-



—Courtesy Lewis S. Mills

Millstone in West Hartland Cemetery with plaque dedicated to original incorporators of West Hartland Cemetery Association.

for the first Meeting House of the Second Society was erected. The first record of a deed to the West Hartland Burying Ground is dated December 27, 1823 (Vol. 8 P-271), when Joel Ensign executed a deed to the Second (School) Society describing the land as follows:

“Bounded east by highway and meeting house, north Arnold Oatman and Wareham Williams, south and west by my own land, except the herbage and that to be taken off by calves and sheep.”

The first tier of graves comes within two feet of the west side of the meeting house. This tier contains the graves of early ministers serving the Second Society and their families. Close by in this same section are the graves of Consider Tiffany of Tory fame, the Wilders, Gilmans, Williams, Coes, and many others of those who first settled on the West Mountain.

In later years Rev. Charles Goddard, who served the Second Society for many years, was given the distinction of being buried in the exact center of the cemetery, and a monument erected over his final resting place suitably inscribed and symbolic of a shepherd in the midst of his sheep.

Like all other country cemeteries, little care was given to maintenance and upkeep. When there were no longer calves and sheep to remove the herbage, it soon became a tangled mass of brush and briars.

On May 26, 1921, the West Hartland Cemetery Association was formed and incorporated by the following original incorporators:

Carlton E. Osborn	Henry W. Beecher
Pearl W. Newton	Addie T. Beecher
Edward A. Gaylord	Rollin B. Judd
Sara G. Williams	Alice M. Judd

A program of restoration was inaugurated immediately and under the direction of Carlton E. Osborn and Pearl W. Newton, the cemetery was over a period of years restored to a better condition. For forty years this association has been active in promoting the improvement and appearance of the original burying ground.

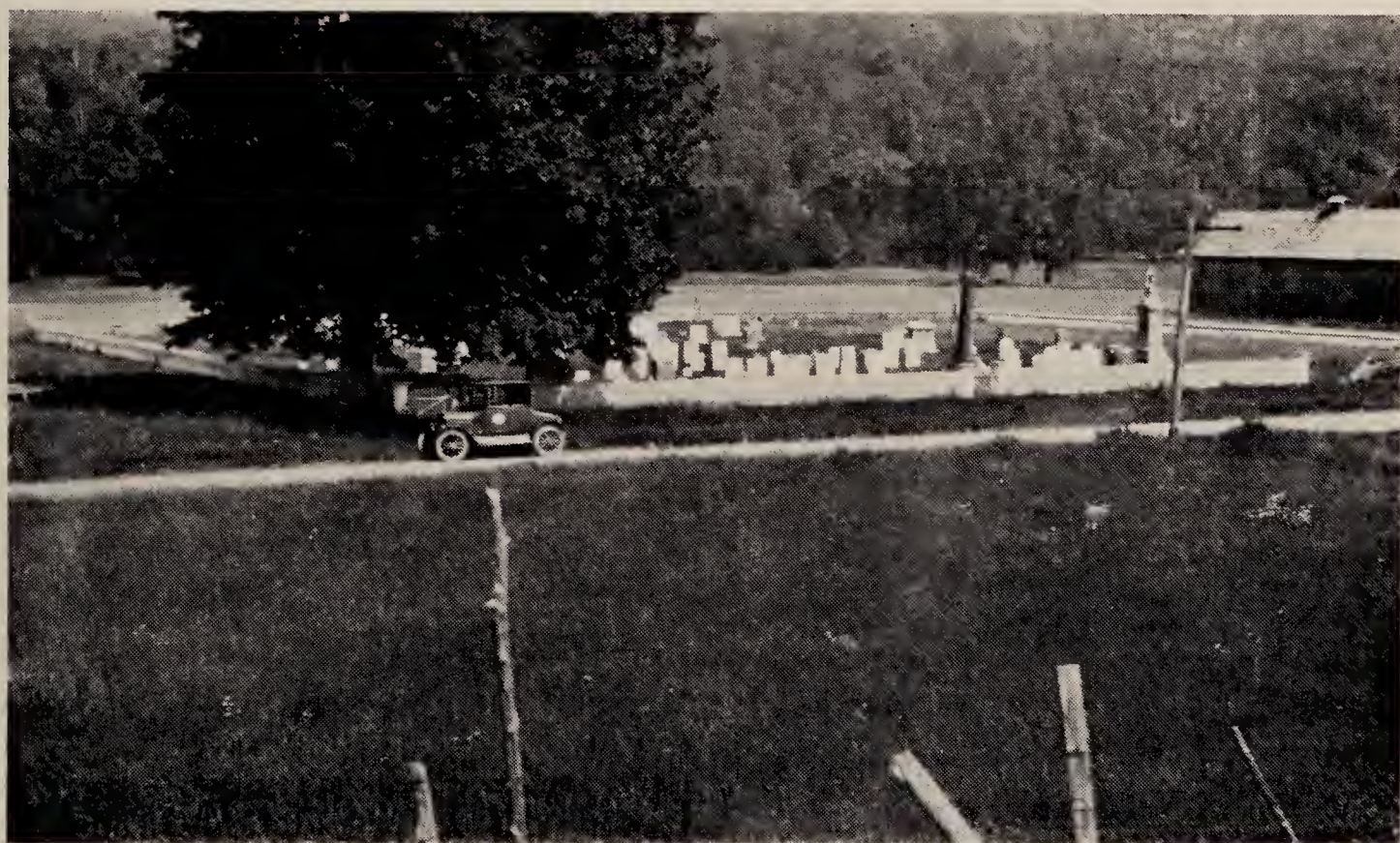
By 1900 the older part of the cemetery had been entirely filled. It was at that time that Pearl W. Newton purchased some additional land on the north side from Willard M. Terry, reserving a large section for the Newton family. The remainder was sold to other individuals. The family cemetery of the Newtons which was originally located in the lot which now separates the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Cottle and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Groth was moved to the Newton plot in the West Hartland Cemetery in the early 1900's.

In 1930 the East Hartland Cemetery Association was fortunate in obtaining some of the old mill-stones used by Titus Hayes and others to grind grain in the mills located in North Hartland Hollow. In 1938 the North Hartland Hollow section was subjected to heavy flood waters to such an extent that some of the river banks were washed away and one additional mill-stone was discovered in the bed of the river where it had apparently been buried for many years. North Hollow had by this time

become devoid of habitation, but the old road along the river was still open. One Sunday morning an expeditionary force from West Hartland visited the scene and succeeded in removing the stone transferring it to the West Hartland Cemetery. Knowing that these stones were usually used in pairs a thorough search failed to reveal another. This stone is not of granite as are those in the East Hartland Cemetery. This being red in color indicates that it was a stone imported from another area. A bronze plaque in memory of the original incorporators of the West Hartland Cemetery Association, donated by A. A. "Birthday" Johnson, was incorporated in the stone, and suitable dedication ceremonies were held on August 11, 1940.

In 1940 it became necessary for the Metropolitan District Commission to remove the Hartland Hollow Cemetery to other locations. Land on the northerly side of the West Hartland Cemetery was purchased of Edward and Perry Ransom for that purpose. The stone wall separating the two properties was removed so that it now appears as one cemetery, but in reality the new addition is maintained by the town of Hartland and does not come under the jurisdiction of West Hartland Cemetery Association.

For many years the West Hartland Cemetery Association has sponsored an "old home day" type of celebration. These are held on Memorial Day and offer an opportunity for relatives and friends whose ancestors rest peacefully in the old West Hartland Cemetery, to share in the work and expense of its maintenance. The present officers of the Association are: Stanley A. Ransom, President; George F. Miller, Vice President; Perry M. Ransom, Treasurer; Irene V. Shepard, Secretary; Trustees: James B. Hall, Edith V. Miller and Laura M. Dickinson.



—Courtesy Metropolitan District Commission

Hartland Hollow Cemetery

HARTLAND HOLLOW CEMETERY

This cemetery was not established by either of the two Ecclesiastical Societies, but by the selectmen and consequently became strictly a town cemetery.

Before 1811, those who resided in Hartland Hollow were for the most part buried in either the East or West Hartland Cemetery. Hartland Hollow residents, although having no church in their midst, felt they should at least be entitled to a cemetery in their own section. Following is a copy of the original deed, dated January 7, 1811, which shows from whom the land was acquired:

Extracts from Deed of Hartland Hollow Cemetery

(Copy of original Deed in possession of and loaned by
courtesy Laura M. Dickinson)

Inscribed on face:

"Selectmen Deed of Sam'l Blakelee and George F. Miller of the Burying Ground in the Hollow. Received to Record Jan'y 21st AD 1811 And Recorded at large in Hartland 7th Book of land Records page 53. Phs. Coe Regr."

"To all people to whom these presents shall come: GREETINGS.

"KNOW YE, THAT we Samuel Blakelee and George F. Miller, of Hartland in the County of Hartford and State of Connecticut for the consideration of Sixteen dollars Received to our full satisfaction of Thomas Beman, Abiather Newton and Cyrus Miller, Selectmen of said Town of Hartland. Do give, grant, bargain, sell and confirm unto the said Thomas Beman, Abiather Newton and Cyrus Miller in capacity as selectmen of said town of Hartland one certain piece or tract of land lieing in said Hartland to be used by the inhabitants of said Town of Hartland for burying ground and contains forty-eight rods of land and is butted and bounded as follows: (Viz) West on a highway six rod then running Easterly eight rods and is bounded Northerly on land of the said Samuel Blakelee then running Southerly six rods and bounded Easterly on lands of the said Samuel Blakelee and the said George F. Miller then running eight rods Westerly to said Highway and is bounded Southerly on land of the said George F. Miller and the said Samuel Blakelee and George F. Miller reserve to themselves the produce of said described premise.

IN WITNESS hereof, we have hereunto set our hand and seal the 7th day of January Anno Domini 1811.

Signed, sealed and delivered in
presence of Cepas Selden, Isaac Olmsted, Jr.

(Signed) Samuel Blakelee, George F. Miller."

For nearly 130 years, the rich and the poor of Hartland Hollow, and some on either mountain, were buried within the confines of the white picket fence which eventually surrounded this graveyard. Near the front gate could be found the marble monuments of those who had prospered on their earthly pilgrimage, and at the back in unmarked graves lay those whose final destination was by fate decreed to be the potter's field.

The entire cemetery was removed by the Metropolitan District Commission in 1941. Most of the removals were to the new cemetery in West Hartland purchased for that purpose. Some, however, were removed to East Hartland Cemetery and other places, as selected by the next of kin. Thirty-six whose names were unknown were transferred to the West Hartland location.

“Full Fathom Five” now covers the area which many considered for a time to be their final resting place.

FAMILY CEMETERIES PETERS' FAMILY CEMETERY

In the triangle made by the West Road, Old Forge Road, and Whisker Hollow Road on the West Mountain is a small family cemetery originally belonging to William Peters, who built and occupied the house now the property of Rev. Charles W. and Nelda Stipek. The cemetery is located in deep woods and access is only by an old wood road.

In later years the farm was owned by Gaylord, Griffin, and Gillet. They acquired the use of the cemetery with the property, and used it for that purpose.

As there are but a few graves in this cemetery, we are listing the names appearing on the headstones for the benefit of future generations:

Darwin Griffin—born Jan. 15, 1806—died Dec. 17, 1894

Harriette, wife of D. Griffin, died Oct. 5, 1866, age 59

Hattie E., daughter of Edward A. & Fidelia H. Gaylord, age 9 yrs.
7 mos.

William Peters, died May 11, 1852, age 78

Roger S. Hungerford, died June 27, 1871

Fayette Byinton, died 1884, age 64—“In Life respected, In death, lamented.”

Fred S. Peters, died Mar. 8, 1834, age 39 years

Nathaniel M. Gillet—Born May 1, 1818, died June 26, 1904

Almira E. Peters, wife—born Sept. 8, 1816, diedNov. 23, 1893

Lucy Ann, daughter—born Mar. 18, 1853, died July 14, 1854

L.N.G.—(just a small marker)

James Peters, died July 3, 1871

Mrs. Roxey Ives—The amiable consort of Mr. Levi Ives died Mar.
24, 1849, age 47 yrs.

Mr. Levi Ives, died May 3, 1854, age 55 yrs.

The walls of this cemetery are of cut stone. When first established, it must have been in an open field, but today it is surrounded by young trees and tangled underbrush.

NEWTON FAMILY CEMETERY

The Newton family early settled along the Milo Coe Road. One of the houses which they occupied was in possession of the Newton family for over 150 years. They established a family cemetery in the field which now lies between the houses of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Cottle and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Groth, both of these houses being in the Newton family for generations.

In the early 1900's the cemetery was moved and combined with the Newton plot in the old West Hartland Cemetery.

ANSON B. TIFFANY BURIAL LOT

This was located on the Anson B. Tiffany farm on Center Hill, and was maintained for some years. When property was purchased by the Metropolitan District Commission, this family cemetery was removed to the new Barkhamsted Cemetery.

WRIGHT FAMILY CEMETERY

Location of this cemetery was in East Hartland in the vicinity of the property now or formerly owned by Mr. and Mrs. Ommund Peder-sen. This is the only record extant of a family cemetery on the East Mountain, but doubtless there were others.

MONUMENT IN THE LONELY WOODS

A traveler making the journey from West Hartland to West Granville is confronted with the necessity of traversing a lonely stretch of wooded road. The branches of the trees on either side interlace at the top and shut out most of the sunlight even on a bright mid-summer day.

If a pedestrian, a stranger, and observant in nature, he is startled when midway in the sylvan gloom to behold a conventional cemetery monument by the roadside on which the following inscription appears:

"Milo B., son of Harlow and Mary Coe,
died October 18, 1851, age 11 years.

He was found dead in front of this monument
supposed to have fallen from a cart in which
he was riding and instantly killed."

Here is the story: Milo B. Coe lived in the first house over the State line in Granville, Massachusetts. As was the custom in those days, boys of what would now be considered the tender age of 11 years were entrusted with jobs out of proportion to their ages.

It was in the fall of the year, October 18, 1851, to be exact, and consequently was the time for making apple cider. Milo was sent with a load of cider apples to a farm about two miles distant from his home where a cider mill was located. He was driving a pair of oxen hitched to one of those old-style two-wheeled ox-carts filled to the brim with loose apples, and riding on the top of the cart in a standing position with only the usual whip to control the oxen. In addition he was all alone, and the road at that time, as it still is today, was through a long stretch of woods.

Just how it happened has never been definitely established. Some say that neighboring farm boys hid in the woods and threw stones at the oxen causing them to jump and throw Milo from the cart. Others say that some animal may have been the cause of the oxen becoming frightened. The first that was known of the tragedy was when the oxen returned home without their driver and a search was started for the boy. He was found dead in front of the place where the present marker now stands. Death was due to a concussion, his head having come in contact with a large stone by the side of the road as he fell from the cart. He is buried in the Old West Hartland Cemetery in the Coe family plot and not by the marker as some erroneously conclude.

Milo attended what was then the little red schoolhouse in West Hartland. A short time after his untimely death, his schoolmates raised some \$35. (a sizeable sum in those days), and erected this monument at the scene of his death. For over 100 years it has been a familiar landmark to all who have lived in this neighborhood.

On the day of Milo's death his mother had company in the person of a neighbor who was making her a visit. All through the day Mrs. Coe remarked to her at frequent intervals, "I have a feeling that something dreadful will happen today." It was only a short time later that the men came bringing the body of Milo and laid him on the couch in the sitting-room.

This section of the road has recently been named the Milo Coe Road, in memory of the boy whose death was so tragic and untimely.

(Key #EH-132) Tragedy seems to have been the lot of the Coe families on both the East and West Mountains. In the notebook of David N. Gaines we find the following paragraph:

"This Hill is called Monument Hill because Elijah Coe, aged 10 years, when going home from school, jumped off the fence and fell onto a stick which pierced his body and he lived but 4 days. He was a son of Elijah and Rhoda Coe, and they erected a small marble slab to mark the spot, Dec. 23, 1803."

As near as we can determine, this Hill was located on the present "Old Town Road" somewhat to the north of the present residence of Mr. and Mrs. Dwight G. Stone, in East Hartland.

CHAPTER VII

The Schools

(IN GENERAL)

In the beginning the Ecclesiastical Societies were charged with the responsibility of educating the young and raising the necessary tax money to maintain a school system. This continued until the amendment of Connecticut's Constitution in 1818, commonly called "The Separation of Church and State" Act, removed their authority and responsibility. The Districts which the Societies had originally set up, however, continued to function as separate entities within their own boundaries, responsible only to the inhabitant taxpayers within their borders.

The First Ecclesiastical Society was organized in 1763, 17 years before the Second Society in 1780. The First Society, therefore, in conjunction with the selectmen, set off the first Districts. On December 17, 1764, "Simon Crosby, Jason Millard, Joshua Giddings, and Joseph Gilbert were chosen a committee to set the site and build 2 school-houses, 1 on each mountain." The Districts were often referred to as "Parishes" in the Ecclesiastical Records, and the description lingered on until long after the Ecclesiastical Societies had relinquished control.

At first there were only three Districts or Parishes in East Hartland. These were designated as the North East, the Southeast and the Center Districts. Around 1820 an additional District called the Southwest or "Westwoods" was added.

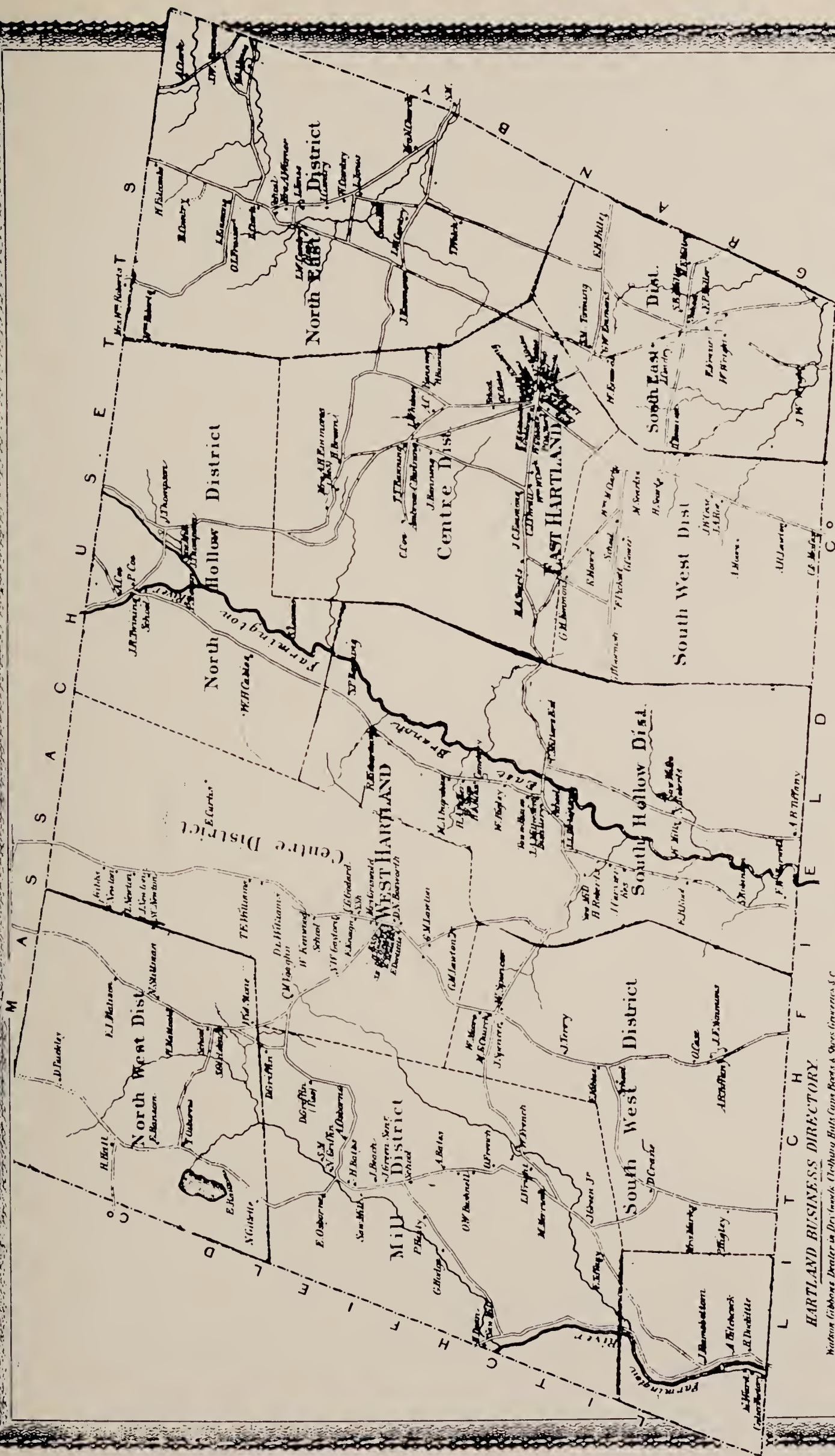
West Hartland also had three original Districts called the West Hartland Centre Parish, the Center Hill or Southwest District, the Mill District; and around 1820 the Northwest District was added.

Two additional Districts in Hartland Hollow, the North Hollow District and the South Hollow District made ten in all. There seems to be no record of when the Hartland Hollow Districts were set off. Around 1820, however, the entire school system seems to have been revised and revamped and no doubt the two in Hartland Hollow added at that time.

No descriptions of the first structures are extant. We picture them as small barn-like buildings furnished with the bare essentials necessary to teach the catechisms and ABC's of the day. If they followed the pattern of the times, the Master's Desk was on an elevated platform in the front of the room and recitation benches ran along the side walls. The desks would be of the double type (each seating two pupils); made of

HARTLAND

180 Rods to an Inch



HARTLAND BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

Watson Gibbons Dealer in Dry Goods, Clothing, Hats, Caps, Boots & Shoes, Groceries, &c.

LK Cat's Carriage Manicature Painter & Trimmer

Joseph Thompson Dealer in Lumber & all kinds of hard wood cut to order.

J.A. Butler Decker in Dry Goods & Groceries

Copy of map showing Hartland School Districts Circa 1870

heavy native oak, and although mutilated and scarred with the initials of many occupants, some of them survived the ravages of time and children to be still in use as late as 1880. The "Horn Books" had disappeared and paper was a luxury few schools could afford. The slate was coming into common use with blackboards some years later. And, of course, the ever present "birch-rod" standing in the corner—one item of equipment Hartland could produce quickly and in abundance. The curriculums may have been limited—but discipline and order stood high on the list.

The oldest Hartland school-houses now in existence give no evidence of ever having had a fireplace as a means of heat. By 1820 stoves had become the accepted means of heating but it is hard to imagine the first school-houses without some means of providing warmth for the long "Winter Terms."

Whenever a District was set off by the Ecclesiastical Societies or the Selectmen, the boundaries were clearly defined and attempts made to locate the school-house as near the population center of each as was practical or possible. The residents of each district were taxed for the support of their individual district only, but, in addition were required to furnish board and lodging for the School Master, the length of his stay at any one place being determined by the number of children attending school from any one family.

The rapid increase in population and growth of the Town of Hartland from its incorporation in 1761 to the year 1800 must have posed a problem of great weight for those in charge of its school system. The census of 1800 lists Hartland's population at that time as 1318—the highest in its history. Large families being the order of the day, it is safe to assume that one-half of the 1318 were under eighteen years of age and that between three and four hundred between the ages of six and eighteen were attending school at some period of the year. The schools were for well over one hundred years operated on a two term basis. The boys, sometimes 18 or over, as well as their younger brothers, attended the "Winter Term" always taught by a man whose physical qualifications usually outweighed his scholastic ability. This system made the boys available for the arduous tasks of farm and home and the increased activities of summer. The "Summer Term" was for the girls and young ladies. In later years, women taught the summer terms, but men in the beginning. Many a young man who later made his "mark" in the world, began his career as a "pedagogue" or country school-teacher.

The history of each of Hartland's 10 Districts falls, more or less, into a set pattern governed in some degree by the varying fortunes of the families and inhabitants residing within its borders. Some years would find only few pupils in attendance and other years overcrowded conditions—a situation Hartland has had to contend with for 200 years. Because of the fact that records of the other Districts are, in many cases, unavailable, and also because we have in our possession the original Record Book, dating from the year 1828, of the "West Hartland Center

Parish," we are using this as a typical example to show the manner and form in which all Districts were conducted. The others will be dealt with separately but in a limited way.

THE WEST HARTLAND CENTRE PARISH SCHOOL

The first School in the West Hartland Centre Parish was located on the north slope of Williams' Hill about one-quarter mile north of the present location of the State Fire Tower. The site is now covered with thick laurel bushes and undergrowth and is part of the State Forest.

Up until the early 1900's, the land was open and used for pasture, and the old foundation stones were readily discernible. One may wonder why this location was chosen so far from what later became West Hartland Center. The reason for this seems to be that the school must have been built around 1765 as the vote at the Annual Meeting of December 17, 1764, previously mentioned, indicates that schools had been established on both mountains by that date. It must be remembered that the year 1765 was fifteen years prior to the formation of the Second Ecclesiastical Society in West Hartland. At that time all the schools were under the jurisdiction of the First Ecclesiastical Society and its committees located on the East Mountain. The location of the school building was at the junction of the road running from West Granville to West Hartland, and a bridle-path leading up from Hartland Hollow past Morrison Hill and passing the school-house on its way West to connect with other roads in the western part of West Hartland. This bridle-path never developed into more than that, and was never made a part of the Town road system. Some of the early settlers, however, located along this trail which no doubt induced the committee to build the school at this site.

There is, of course, no record as to what this building may have looked alike. Even the old-timers of our generation had no recollection of it—but it served the Center Parish for school purposes from the approximate dates of 1765 to 1839, a total of 74 years. By 1839, as we shall see later, it did have a stove as part of its equipment. The first one-room school buildings, and in fact most of those built before 1900, seldom exceeded dimensions of 20' x 30' and many were even smaller in size. Within its walls, however, many who were to later become some of Hartland's leading citizens received their total scholastic education. (This can be said of all the other schools in the several districts of Hartland at that time.)

The Second Ecclesiastical Society was organized in West Hartland in May 1780 and from that time on was charged with the responsibility for the conduct of the schools in the several districts on the West Mountain. This continued until the amendment of Connecticut's Constitution in 1818 when the "Separation of Church and State" placed the schools under the jurisdiction of the civil authorities of each town. It was at this time that the two additional districts were added, as previously recorded, making a total of ten in all. Each district elected its own



West Hartland Center District School as it appeared in 1930.

—Courtesy Lewis S. Mills

School Committee which functioned, with apparently little interference by the Selectmen, as a sovereign power in its own bailiwick. Notices of Annual Meetings were given by posted "Warnings" on the public sign-boards. At that time they selected the teachers, determined the amount of tax to be levied and appointed a collector. The wood was "let" to the lowest bidder and in later years inspectors were appointed to see that the logs were of the correct length and of the specifications required.

The early records speak of Winter and Summer terms but do not specify the number of weeks in any one term. Male teachers usually taught the winter terms as the pupils consisted of boys in winter, and the girls in summer were taught by females. Physical fitness as well as erudition became one of the essential qualifications of the male instructors for some of the boys continued in school well into early manhood and physical force was sometimes the only means of maintaining order and discipline.

The fly-leaf of the "Treasurer's Book For the Centre School District" of West Hartland is dated A.D. 1828. The first entry:

To money paid to G. W. Sanford for winter school	\$ 48.00
To money paid to Jerusha Cowdery for summer school	15.84
To abatement on Committee's bill and his repairing schoolhouse	2.54
	<hr/>
	\$ 66.38
	65.72
	<hr/>
Due District Committee—Paid	\$.66
CONTRA CR.	
To Public Money Received	\$ 49.01
To tax bills in I. J. Newton's hands	16.71
	<hr/>
	\$ 65.72

From 1828 to 1839 the yearly entries consist of scarcely more than four lines on the Debit side and two on the Contra or credit page. The amount paid the teachers for the winter terms varies from \$48. to a maximum of \$60. paid E. S. Cornish for the winter term in 1839. The female teachers did not fare as well for their salaries ranged from a low of \$15.84 in 1828 to a maximum of \$25. paid to a Miss Boston for the summer term in 1835. No mention is made of board for the teachers, and it is assumed they boarded with each family for a few weeks in proportion to the number of pupils attending from the families involved.

For the benefit of those interested in the names of early participants in the Hartland scene, we are listing the names of the teachers mentioned and those who are referred to in connection with the school committees. These are for the years between 1828 and 1839.

Year	Teacher	Winter Term	Summer Term
1828	G. W. Sanford	X	
"	Jerusha Cowdery		X
1829	A. Higley	X	
"	Hannah Bosworth		X

1830	No name given		
"	Elisabeth Booth		X
1831	Asa Higley, Jr.	X	
"	No name given		
1832	Mr. Wilson	X	
"	No name given		
1833	Anna T. Williams	X	
"	Clarissa Bougg		X
	(The first record of a woman teacher for the winter term)		
1834	Names not given		
1835	Joseph Barber	X	
"	Miss Boston		X

There is a lapse of three years in the record book with no explanation given. There is a possibility that the school was in a sad state of disrepair and the pupils sent to another district on a temporary basis. Under the date of 1839 there is one entry "To money paid to E. S. Cornish for winter school \$60. but no mention is made of a summer school for that year.

Arnold Oatman, I. J. Newton and Lester Newton are the only names mentioned in connection with school committees and collectors for this early period. Arnold Oatman conducted "Oatman's Hotel" which was situated on what is now the corner of Center Street and West Road; more recently the home of the late Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ransom. Isaac J. Newton built and lived in the house next north of the first Centre Parish School, now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Cottle. Lester Newton lived in the house next north of Isaac Newton's, on the site of the one now owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Harold T. Groth.

The year 1840 saw a number of changes in the Centre Parish District on the West Mountain. With the formation of the Second Ecclesiastical Society in 1780 and the subsequent building of the Meeting House about one mile south of the original school house, the center of population had changed until the school was far removed from the center of the District. The old school building must have been in a sorry condition for, according to the Treasurer's Book, only \$12.13 had been spent for repairs from 1828 to 1840. The committee, influenced by these factors, apparently decided that it would be cheaper to build a new building than repair the old one. A new building would also permit moving the site to a more convenient and satisfactory location. After much deliberation (and probably to the dissatisfaction of many inhabitants of the district) a site was selected about three-fourths of a mile south of the original school-house, it still being about one-half mile north of the Meeting House, which was considered to be the approximate center of the District.

The land, consisting of an area about four rods square, was obtained from Nathaniel Gaylord, Jr., it being the Northeast corner of a meadow belonging to his farm, located on the West side of the road from West Granville to West Hartland. Some two hundred feet to the north was the house built and still occupied at that time by the Rev. Nathaniel Gaylord, pastor of the Second Society. In that day and for many years

to come no thought was given by school committees to provide recreational activities or a space for them. Land sufficient for a school building, wood-house and the necessary privies fulfilled all essential requirements.

Here is the record of the building of the new school building and its cost of construction as it appears in the Treasurer's Record Book:

1839 - 1840

To an order to Benson Coe for building the School House and for furnishing a lock for said House:	\$200.50
To an order to Nathaniel Gaylord, Jr. for damages assessed or awarded him for a site for the School house	17.00
To an order to Henry Robinson for money paid Committee measuring road, etc.	4.25
To an order to Lester H. Treat for collecting two tax bills	4.53
To an order to George C. Gilman for measuring road	0.75
To abatement on Tax Bills	3.15
To an order to Levi Ives for measuring road	0.75
	<hr/>
	\$230.91
A. Oatman has \$1.75 for his services as Building Committee & Dinner for the Committee	1.75
	<hr/>
	\$232.66
To One Box Stove	7.00
To 23¾ lbs. pipe at 10¢	2.38
	<hr/>
	\$242.04
CONTRA — — CREDIT	
By Tax Bill	\$205.52
By Tax Bill	24.13
By Cash for Table	.15
A. Oatman by Cash for old School House and Stove	8.83
	<hr/>
Due from A. Oatman on the old school house or turn as his services—Dinner for the Committee, etc.	1.75
	<hr/>
	\$240.38

The record does not state who supplied the lumber and other material for the building but it hardly seems possible that it was included in the amount paid Benson Coe for the building of the structure. (Benson Coe, incidentally, was one of the outstanding carpenters of his day. It was he who hewed most of the timbers for the present Second Congregational Church building and supervised the construction in 1844. Many other houses built in West Hartland in the early 1800's are the product of his skill. From 1841 until his death on March 1, 1862, age 69, he lived in the first house South of the State Line on the West Granville-West Hartland road, built by his father, Captain Timothy Coe in 1782. In later years this house was the home of Joseph Gibbs but was torn down in 1930 after it had fallen to decay.)

Whether or not Benson Coe made a profit on the building is beside the point. The fact that this building with a few minor changes and repairs served the Centre Parish District as a School-House for the ensuing 97 years and is still in use as a component part of a private home, attests to the fact that it was well-built. Whether or not it was painted is not known for the records are silent on this point. Most of the school-houses of this period were painted in the traditional red, not so much because the color was a favorite of the committee in charge, but more important to them was the fact that it was the cheapest form of outside paint and the most durable to be had at that time. Consisting for the most part of red clay and a little oil or sometimes buttermilk, it could be procured at little expense. By 1875, however, white paint was available at reasonable prices, and it was painted by H. H. Griswold for \$30.69. No one now living can remember when the School House in the Centre Parish of West Hartland was not white in color.

During the next 57 years (The Treasurer's Record Book ends with the year 1897) the activities of the District fell into a set pattern. Each annual meeting elected a committee—in many cases only one individual—who was charged with procuring teachers and appointing school visitors as well as having general supervision over all things applying to educational problems in the district. The bidding for supplying the wood seems to have been one of the highlights of the annual meetings; the following being an example: At the Annual Meeting held on January 13, 1873, it was voted: "To have six cord of hard wood 2 feet long got and put in wood-house on or before the 1st of April next. Voted: To let it to be got by the lowest bidder and to be set up by Moderator. Bid off by Albert A. Newton at 1 75/100 dollars a cord, to be measured by District Committee."

In 1841 they paid \$60. to E. S. Cornish for teaching the Winter Term and in 1893 the amount was the same. During that period the teachers' wages were sometimes much less especially if they happened to be of the female sex. One of the older boys was paid as much as \$2.00 to arrive an hour early and make the fire during the winter term.

In 1841 there appears an entry showing that the Treasurer received, in addition to Public Money in the amount of \$54., an amount of \$5.71 from the Deposit Fund. This is the first time the Town Deposit Fund is mentioned and it is listed in the receipts columns quite regularly after the year 1856. (This is the fund divided among all Connecticut Towns, the interest to be used for School Purposes only, resulting from the sale of the "Western Lands" in Ohio, and pro-rated among the Towns on the basis of their population in 1836.)

The following contains the names of some of the teachers and, so far as possible, they are presented in chronological order, from 1841 to 1897. Some of them taught for several consecutive terms but their names are listed one time only: Mr. Andrus; Sarah A. Huggins; E. S. Cornish; Sylvia O. Ford; Timothy E. Williams; Elvira Sage; Julia E. Selden; Flava Case; Harriet Gilman; Augusta Newton; Fidelia Griffin; Catherine Beach; Jane Baldwin; Maria N. Jones; Emeret Wilson; Miss Osborne; Miss Rose; Miss Smith; Miss Cook; Annie P. Gaylord; Adeltha

Fowler; Charlotte Seymour; J. M. Smith; Frances E. Gaylord; Miss Whiting; Miss Freeman; George L. Gilman; Hattie Hayden; Henry H. Griswold; Addie A. Smith; Miss Jennie Wilcox; Warham H. Williams; Mark W. Stillman; Miss Spencer; Ida Barrett; Ida Stillman; George Wilcox; Lizzie Clark; George B. Cornish; L. E. Manchester; Miss Twinning; Burritt Hitchcock; Clara Griswold. From 1890 to 1897 the names are not given and no doubt there were others whose names are not in the record.

The entire Nineteenth Century saw little progress in the country schools of Hartland. All of the districts conducted their individual programs on the basis of getting along with the barest essentials and with as little expense as possible. No consideration was given to the pupils or teachers in the way of creature comforts and transportation was unheard of. Many of the pupils walked distances of two to three miles over lonely roads and in all types of weather. The pail for drinking water sat on a shelf in the entry—just above the wood-box—with a battered tin dipper hard by it. Lucky the boy who was assigned to make the daily trip to the nearest house for a fresh supply—for there was no well or water on the school premises. Germs were not discovered by school committees until many years later. The out-houses were always in a filthy condition and were seldom inspected more than once a year. As long as the three R's were thoroughly taught and strict discipline maintained, the school committees believed they had done their duty to God, their Country, their neighbors and themselves. So far as the children were concerned—they were incidental. If they learned to read, cipher and write a good hand, they went on to fill the various Town Offices which their fathers had held before them. If not, there was always a dearth of strong muscles needed to guide the plow and cut the winter's wood. In spite of all these disadvantages, many emerged (and this is true of all the districts) both boys and girls alike, to become outstanding citizens, adding their contribution to the betterment of a way of life and education they knew at first-hand.

But to return to the Centre Parish School on the West Mountain; time flies and after 28 years, repairs were again required. On September 30, 1868, the committee voted: "To repair the School House. To shingle the house and outbuildings. Make a door from entry into wood-house. Close the outside door except a window for putting in wood. Plaster inside where needed and white-wash the whole. To get a new stove and pipe, also a black-board." Something must have gone wrong or at least some dissatisfaction arose for on December 28th, 1868 (the same year) a special meeting was called and it was voted: "To appropriate \$20. out of money to be raised to paint School House. To repair the inside of the school house. Either put in new desks or substitute cast iron chairs with desks in place of old ones. Voted: To borrow Eighty Dollars to pay for repairs already made on school house." The Northwest District had temporarily closed their school and were sending their pupils to the Centre Parish District; and at the same meeting they voted: "That those children attending school from out of District be taxed for support of

school in same proportion per scholar as (those) belonging to District, after deducting their public money."

With the exception of having a considerable discussion regarding the building of a new "out house" in 1884, there was little to upset the yearly routine during the next 40 years.

By 1892 the original boundaries of the Centre School District of the West Mountain came into question and were reaffirmed by the selectmen of that date as follows:

BOUNDARIES OF THE CENTER SCHOOL
DISTRICT OF WEST HARTLAND, CONNECTICUT

Bounded on the North by the State Line and Green Lot.

EAST by land of Phineas C. Stevens, Ansel Cables, Stebbins farm, Blakesly farm, and L. L. Dickinson.

SOUTH by L. L. Dickinson, William Spencer's Estate and Polly Moore.

WEST by land called the Hodge Lot, Amos M. Osborn, Darwin Griffin's Estate, Burrill Giddings, Mary Mallison, Seth Giddings, and thence on line of tier of lots to State Line.

Hartland, December 13th, 1892

Henry J. Gates)	Selectmen
John H. Wheeler)	Selectmen
Osborn E. Murphy)	Selectmen

Children have always been notoriously destructive of school property and those attending the Center District were no exception. They seem possessed of an innate desire to leave behind them marks of their ability in carving initials in most conspicuous places—and if secure from detection—a well-aimed stone would shatter enough glass so that the school committee would have something to work on before school opened for the next term.

Thirty-eight years without major repairs found the school house and buildings again in need of a complete renovation. The committee called a meeting on June 23, 1906 at which the following vote was passed: "On motion made by E. A. Gaylord and seconded by Ernest Hall, as follows: 'We appoint a committee of three tax-payers of said district to make the following repairs on Center School House West Parish, West Hartland, Ct. To seal school house and build new chimney, buy a new stove and pipe, purchase necessary black-boards, teacher's desk, new windows and shades and other necessary repairs, said repairs to be completed by September 1, 1906 and tax said District for enough to cover expense.'" Building committee appointed consisted of Carlton Osborn, Charles Devoe, Frank Fuller, and Frank T. Osborn was collector of the tax to cover expense.

The expression "seal the school house" may stand in need of clarification for the benefit of the younger generation. Around 1900 some of the more progressive lumber companies developed a board, usually hard-pine, which was about 3½" in width and ¼" in thickness. These were of the tongue and groove variety with an additional groove in the center and were commonly called "sealing boards". They were used

extensively in the repair of old buildings as they could be easily applied over old plaster by the use of furring strips, and when the natural wood was finished with clear varnish, it became a pleasing substitute for the cracked plaster and dirty white-wash which it usually replaced. Shortly after 1900, nearly all the school houses in Hartland's several districts were remodeled and the interiors finished in this fashion.

The committee completed the repairs at a total expense of \$160.66, and the inhabitants of the District with the amount of their assessment and the tax paid by each is as follows:

Names	Assessment	Tax
Harry F. Brensinger	\$ 906.00	\$ 6.34
Rev. Thomas Booth	20.00	.14
A. D. Brown	240.00	1.68
Charles Devøe	1559.00	10.91
Thomas Booth	3802.00	26.61
Frank Fuller	2277.00	15.94
Edward A. Gaylord	1208.00	8.46
Albert J. Hall	4163.00	29.14
James B. and Ernest Hall	352.00	2.46
Albert Hitchcock (Abatement)	352.00	2.46
John L. Hitchcock	2338.00	16.35
Peter Lefeber	705.00	4.94
Albert A. Newton	1521.00	10.65
Jane Newton	1374.00	9.62
Pearl Newton	100.00	.70
Carlton E. Osborn	1350.00	9.45
Frank T. Osborn	380.00	2.66
Calista A. Dean	700.00	4.90
Belle P. Foster	1763.00	12.34
Mrs. Belle Gilbert	792.00	5.54
S. G. Howd	535.00	3.75
Henry Gay	500.00	3.50
Amos W. Dean	2036.00	14.25
		<hr/>
		\$162.39

Constant W. Gower and Ralph U. Griffin, Assessors, certified that the list and assessments were correct. These were the last repairs of any consequence made to the building during the remainder of the 33 years in which it was to serve as seat of learning for the younger generation of the Center West Parish.

(From September 1907 to June of 1909, the writer attended this school. Although residing in the Town of Granville, Massachusetts, special arrangements were made to send my brother and I to this school instead of the 3½ miles to the Ore Hill District in Granville. It was but 2½ miles to West Hartland, and we walked, of course. Furthermore, I was selected to arrive an hour earlier each morning and build the fire, for which I was paid the munificent sum of \$2.00 for the entire portion of the school year whenever a fire was required, which can be considered as approximately from November 1st to May 1st. Consequently, I am now on familiar ground and know whereof I speak.)

In 1907 the teacher was Nellie Barnes, who came from North Hartland Hollow and resided with her family in what was originally the

“Old Red Lion Inn”. The distance was too far to travel back and forth daily, so she boarded with one of the local families in West Hartland during the school week. According to the Town Report for that year, her salary was \$3.50 per week. There were some twelve pupils in the West Parish District at that time, and all eight grades were represented. The school-day opened at 9 A.M. with the teacher and pupils reciting the Lord’s Prayer in unison, followed by the singing of America, a capella, not so much as a pitch-pipe being available in the way of musical equipment. From then until recess at 10:30 to 10:45, there were recitations constantly in progress among the several grades and those not on the recitation bench were studiously engaged in mastering the daily assignments. With a lunch-hour from 12 to 1 and another recess at 2:30 to 2:45 P.M., the school-day ended at 4:00 P.M. Then began the long walk home, after which there were wood-boxes to fill, cows to milk, stables to clean and other minor chores to fill the interim before supper at 6:30. Thermos bottles were unheard of, and the noon-hour lunches, usually consisting of bread and meat sandwiches carried in Swift’s premium lard pails or Mayo’s tobacco boxes from which the original contents had been removed, were washed down with copious draughts from the battered tin dipper, previously mentioned, its contents replenished, as necessary, from the dusty water-pail in the entry. (Those who survived—and their number is legion—are the ones who now so willingly pay the increased taxes to pay off the bond issues and maintenance costs in connection with those utopias of transportation, hot lunches, dixie cups and drinking fountains so necessary in our present system of modern education.)

Monday through Thursday was pretty much routine. Reading, writing, arithmetic, spelling, grammar and American history comprised most of the curriculum, but a comparatively new subject called “civics” was being added to the seventh and eighth grade schedules. Friday, however, was different, especially in the afternoon. That was the day the older grades had classes in physiology—an extremely interesting subject to the older boys in a day when a feminine ankle was seldom seen after its owner had attained the age of 14 years. Each Monday all grades were given poems or prose to memorize during the week. The last hour, or from 3 to 4 on Friday was the elocution period in which each pupil was made to orally recite the assignment of the week. To some, this became the final torture of a tortuous week; while others who were “good at it” really enjoyed the performance. Unhappy the wretch, who, after much stuttering and stammering, could not remember the opening lines and was forced to stay after school until he could recite them.

There was one decided advantage in attending a one-room country school in which all eight grades were taught—an advantage which is seldom if ever, mentioned by today’s proponents of modern education. It was simply this: For eight years each grade heard the other classes recite. While those not engaged in recitation were supposedly intent on their own assignments, nevertheless, their subconscious minds (and sometimes conscious) were absorbing what all the others were doing and saying. At the end of the first year the first-graders knew what to

expect in the other seven; and if the eighth graders had not learned their lessons well in preceding years, they had an opportunity to review. Subjected to this routine under a system of strict discipline—after eight years there were few who did not know most of the lessons “by heart”. At least, they had been thoroughly steeped in the fundamentals.

The year 1908 brought a new teacher to the West Hartland Center School. She was Miss Gertrude Shelley (now Mrs. Charles Osborn) of East Orange, New Jersey, and has the distinction of being one of the first teachers in the Center District who was not a native of the District or of one of the towns in the immediate area. The school and its pupils made great progress under her direction and she, in turn, liked Hartland so well that she remained a member of the community, married, and continued teaching.

Up until this time there was little in the way of supervision by the District over the teachers or the pupils. Each year at the annual meeting of the District, school visitors were appointed whose duty it was to drop in unexpectedly to see how the teachers were conducting their classes. These visits seldom occurred more than once or twice a year and were always an occasion of great frustration on the part of the teacher and pupils alike. Mr. Edward A. Gaylord was the visitor who usually



—Courtesy Irene V. Shepard

West Hartland Center District—Student body of 1910. (l. to r.) Mildred Tompkins, Mrs. Charles Osborn, Teacher, Bertha Hitchcock, Marjorie Osborn, Florence Eastland, George Martin, Christel Hitchcock, Adelaide Crunden, Hazel Martin, Gladys Gray, Barney Strohm, Edward Martin, Viola Brensinger, (seated) Harry Brensinger, William Brensinger, Raymond E. Hall, and George Bent.

came to the West Hartland School and, after observing one or two classes recite, seldom had any criticism to offer in connection with the way and manner in which the school was "kept". The visitors were paid \$1.00 for each visit made, and if payments for more than two visits appeared in the Annual Report for any one term, it was the general feeling that the visitors were trying to make a lot of easy money at the District's expense.

The year 1909 brought about a complete revision of the entire rural educational system in the State of Connecticut. Legislation enacted at that time, placed the responsibility for educational activities in the hands of a State Commissioner of Education, who in turn appointed supervisors for the rural areas. The schools of each town were administered by the local Town Board of Education on a Town-wide basis. At the Annual Meeting of the Town of Hartland held on October 4, 1909, the several School Districts were abolished and the property of each District acquired by the Town as a whole. Although this ended the functions of the District Committees, the schools were still maintained in their same locations for many more years. The West Hartland Center School continued for twenty-eight additional years under the new system; subject now to the governing policies of the "School Board" and the periodic visits of the new State Supervisor—the first being Mr. William Bliss.

The average daily attendance is given as 13.14 in 1910 and by 1913 it had climbed to 27. Five years later in 1918 it had gone down to only 13. Some of the teachers during these later years—and the list is by no means complete, are as follows: Mrs. Florence Eastland; Miss King; Bertha L. Hitchcock; Hollis M. French; Marjorie Osborn; Roy Cowles; Loretta Donsbough; Mrs. Margaret Cook; Mrs. Elinor Dotson, and others whose names are not available.

In 1910 the Annual Budget of the Town of Hartland carried a recommendation of an expense of \$270. for the West Parish Center School for the ensuing year. This amount included teacher's salary, wood, books, and all other incidental expense. The Center District in the East Parish, however, had a recommended amount of \$360. but the average attendance was 21 pupils compared to 14 for the West Parish. It was at this time that the Town began to receive aid from the State of Connecticut, the amount in 1910 being \$865.23, based on the average attendance in all seven Districts which were maintained at that time.

In 1930 the population of Hartland dropped to an all-time low of 296, and the schools had few pupils in attendance at any one District. The automobile had come into common use and school transportation had been in effect for quite some time. For a few years between 1930 and 1937, pupils in the Mill and Center Hill Districts were transported to the West Hartland Center Parish and the schools in those Districts closed permanently.

With the advent in the early 1930's of the Metropolitan District Commission and the subsequent closing of the North and South Hollow Schools, it was the general opinion of the School Board and the inhabitants of the West Mountain that a new one-room consolidated school



—Courtesy Lewis S. Mills

One of the last one-room schools housing all eight grades built in the State of Connecticut. West Hartland Elementary School built in 1937.

would be the answer to their educational problems. Using some of the money obtained from the sale of the schools in Hartland Hollow, they proceeded to build a new brick building in West Hartland which was ready for occupancy in October 1937. It was at that time the West Parish Center School closed its door on school activities for the last time, the District having been in existence for a total of approximately 165 years.

The building built in 1840, however, still survives, and after being moved to a new location nearby, comprises the living room of the summer home now owned and occupied by Miss Mildred Holt.

NORTHWEST DISTRICT

West Parish—Key No. 99

Set off as a District by Second Ecclesiastical Society and school built about 1779. Tradition has 80 pupils attending in 1800. Map of 1870 shows a different location from original site. No records extant of committees or teachers. School closed temporarily in 1868—pupils remaining in district sent to West Hartland Center Parish. District discontinued completely by 1875. Foundation stones of original building still discernible on present Dish-Mill Road.

SOUTHWEST OR CENTER HILL DISTRICT

West Parish—Key Nos. 18 and 19

Set off as a District by Second Ecclesiastical Society, December 27, 1779. Committee consisted of Simon Crosby, Jason Millard, and Joshua Giddings. Gamaliel Wilder appointed Committee and Collector. Voted to raise money one-half on Grand Levy and one-half on Polls from six years old to fourteen—2 shillings on the Pound, and 2 shillings on the Polls.

The original building was of wood and burned about 1820. It was at this time that the Ecclesiastical Societies were replaced with District Committees under the so-called "Separation of Church and State" amendment. It became necessary to build a new school-house as one of the first duties of the new District Committee.

It may have been because of a good selling job on the part of some local stone-mason or the fear of fire that prompted the committees of three of Hartland's Districts to build stone school-houses all at about the same time. Center Hill District seems to have been the first to choose this method of construction with the Southeast District in East Hart-



—Courtesy Metropolitan District Commission

*Southwest or Center Hill District Stone School House as it appeared
in 1937*

land second, and the Mill District a short time later. The walls of all three are extremely thick, and the mortar is of sand and lime—cement not being available at the time. Whatever the reason for the choice of stone—it was a good one. The 140 years which have elapsed still finds the main structures in a good state of preservation.

A new site was chosen for the new building. This was a little farther south of the original location and located close beside the highway which ran at that time from the main Center Hill Road to the present Hi-View Road emerging near what is now the residence of Maurice and Annie Laurie Crain. The building was built on a solid ledge of rock extending into the highway. This school was in continuous operation until the early 1930's. By that time the Metropolitan District Commission and the State Forest had acquired all but one farm in the District.

Like many of the other Districts—records are few and scarce. Many are still residing in West Hartland who attended this school and there have been many who began their careers as teachers within its damp and gloomy walls. Their number is legion but the only ones of which we are certain are: Carlton E. Osborn; Mrs. Elnora Snow; Rev. Hollis M. French; Miss Bertha L. Hitchcock (Dodd); and Stanley A. Ransom. Yes, the writer taught this school for one week in March, 1916. The snow was so deep that the regular teacher, Miss Bertha L. Hitchcock, could not wade through the drifts. Mr. Bliss, Superintendent of Rural Schools at the time, hired me to teach the week of Spring Vacation while I was attending Gilbert School in Winsted.

The school being discontinued, it was leased in 1952 by the Town of Hartland to John Nelson for a period of 99 years. He occupies the building at the present time.

MILL DISTRICT SCHOOL

Key No. 149

The present Mill District School House was no doubt built shortly after the one on Center Hill and a comparison of the stone work would indicate it being built by the same stone mason. As this was a section settled early, there is every probability that a school house existed before the present one, but there is no record of it. It followed the pattern of the other districts but the records of the District Committees and their doings are lost and any accurate information with them.

The Mill District School was continued until 1935 when it began transporting what few pupils were left in the District to the West Hartland Center School. In the 1920's it was overcrowded and by 1935 there were less than five.

The Mill District in later years has become the subject of much sentiment on the part of those who taught and those who attended since the 1900's. An association called "The Old Mill Street School Association", consisting of those still living who taught and attended school in that place, meets once each year to renew friendships and to reminisce.

The bottom panel of the top drawer used for many years as the "Teacher's Desk" became a place for each teacher to inscribe his or her name. Over the years they were many, and we are listing those which are still decipherable:

Helen Curtin	Gertrude Wright	Ruby Norton
Margaret Murphy (Cook)	Marie Feley	Frank Osborn
Myra Maxwell	Hazel Gibbs	Lillian Osborn
Daisy Wraight	Louise H. Schenetsky	Maude Beach
Miss Holton	Ada M. Titus	Myra Parsons
Esther D. Miller	Henrietta Pratt	Ira Moore
May Trumbull	Florence Coe Parsons	Carrie Brown
Olga E. Thorne	Alberta Phillins	Ralph Griffin
Ellen E. Seagren	Nona Babbitt (Palm)	Jennie Emmons
Fred W. Goetz	Jennie H. Moran	Alice M. Cables
Anna M. Goetz	Fanny Slocum	
Olive E. Case	Lulu Moore	

This Panel is now in the possession of The Hartland Historical Society.

The school building was sold to Joseph Baranowicz in 1945, and is used as a private dwelling at the present time.



—Courtesy Lewis S. Mills

Mill District School, West Hartland, as it appeared in 1935

FIRST OR CENTER DISTRICT

East Mountain

The first school-house in Hartland was built before the first Meeting House and was erected shortly after 1764. David N. Gaines made an extensive study of the original locations of all the buildings on East Hartland Green and has this to say about the first school: "On December 17, 1764, Simon Crosby, Jason Millard, Joshua Giddings and Joseph Gilbert were chosen a committee to set the site and build 2 school-houses, 1 on each mountain . . . the committee built a school-house on the East Mountain, a little west (in highway) of where they had set stakes for a Meeting House . . ." Mr. Gaines places the original location near the site of the house now owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. William Jones. Before the Meeting House was built, the school-house was used for religious services and Town Meetings.

It remained at this location until 1808 when a new school was built on the same site or close by but in 1818 it was moved farther North and for many years was located on the Old Town Road on the opposite side of the road a little North of the house now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Stone.



—Courtesy Lewis S. Mills

First District School, East Hartland, Class of 1927. Back row (l. to r.) Vesta Bates, Florence Williams, Agnes Williams, Jack Tuffy. Middle row, l. to r., Helen Sack, Katherine Sack, Grace Tuffy. Front Row, l. to r., Albert Raabe, Robert Hayes, Milton Williams, Russell Hayes, and Peder Pederson.

The committee's records are very confusing in their description of the location finally selected in 1818. Again, quoting from Mr. Gaines' Note Book: "On December 10, 1818, Samuel Benjamin and Elijah Coe were appointed to see about fixing a new site for a new school house. They fixed the spot on old road north of Ephram Selby's near foot of hill. The first place they fixed was between the County Road and highway on the ground occupied by Ephram Selby for a turnip yard this past year (this is dated January 13, 1818) then they moved it farther North. My mother has told me about going to school there . . . I have not found out when it was moved back to the place where I went to school."

By 1901 the location had been moved to the present site of the East Hartland Fire Department and a new school house built in that year. The new building was built by Sam Jones and David N. Gaines at a cost of \$800. Mr. Gaines' note book states: "It was burned January 30, 1908 about 5 P.M. after they had all gone home. We think it caught fire by overheating during the day and by filling the stove with wood at night. It was a very cold day—10 degrees below zero."

Another one-room school was built on the same site in 1909 at a cost of \$1,400. During the next twenty years the population decreased to the extent that at times less than ten pupils were in attendance. The building was remodeled in 1938 and provisions made for oil heating equipment. Within the next two years the enrollment had increased making it necessary for a new room to be added to the existing building. The other Districts in East Hartland were discontinued and all pupils were being transported to the Center School.

The population continued to increase and by 1948 the two rooms of the Center District were inadequate for the enrollment. Additional land was purchased from David N. Gaines and in 1949 a new modern one-story brick building containing 4 classrooms and a combination Auditorium and Town Hall was built a few rods Northeast of the old school building at a cost of \$125,430. The old school building was subsequently sold to the East Hartland Volunteer Fire Department and is currently used as a fire house.

In 1954 the West Hartland School was closed and the East Hartland School became a consolidated school for the entire town. With the exception of one year when the West Hartland School was re-opened, this program has prevailed with transportation from West to East being made by bus. By 1957 the facilities were again overcrowded and four additional class-rooms added to the existing building at a cost of approximately \$75,000. This gives us the building in its present state. Recent plans for further expansion have yet to be determined.

The history of the First District or Center Parish East Mountain, if possible of adequate presentation would require more than one volume. The names of the various District Committees and teachers over the years are legion and are closely interwoven with the cultural and civic life of the Town. The members of School Boards who have served so faithfully and well, deserve special recognition in their efforts to

bring about better conditions for the children of all. Theirs has been a laborious and unrewarding task and future generations will benefit from the result of their past and present endeavors.

Thus, at the end of nearly 200 years, we find a new Consolidated School, containing eight class rooms, an auditorium and all modern improvements, only a few rods distant from the site of the first school house built in Hartland.

SOUTHEAST DISTRICT SCHOOL

(East Parish or Stone Schoolhouse)

(Key No. 6)

The first schoolhouse at this site was built in 1776, by a vote of The First Society at meeting held November 23, 1775. Original District contained an area approximately one mile square in Barkhamsted which at one time was included in the First Ecclesiastical Society's jurisdiction in Hartland. According to the note-book of David N. Gaines, the present Stone Schoolhouse was built on the same site as the first one. This was built in 1830 by Samuel Munson of Tariffville, Connecticut. Some dispute arose between the builder and the District Committee and litigation followed. It eventually cost the District over \$2,000. before a settlement was made. Anson McCloud moved out of the district to escape paying the extra tax.

Continued as a District until 1909 when building was sold to Eleazer Hayes by Town School Committee. In 1914 sold to Dorothy Avery of Astoria, L. I. Dorothy Avery Mueller owns it at present time.

NORTHEAST DISTRICT SCHOOL

(East Parish)

(Key No. 113)

There is no record we could discover as to the exact date this District was established but we do know it was maintained as a District until the 1930's. Sometimes designated as the "East Indies School", the name apparently originating because of its location in one of the outlying sections of town. Tradition has the name applied to this area evolving from the reason of strangers making inquiries in East Hartland Center for families residing in this section being informed "Oh, they live way out in the East Indies."

Combined with the First District in the 1930's and building sold to individuals who dismantled and removed.



East Hartland Elementary School before 1957 addition



—Courtesy Lewis S. Mills

Stone School House in South East District, East Hartland. Discontinued as district in 1908 and building sold by selectmen. Dorothy Avery Mueller owns it at present time.

SOUTHWEST DISTRICT SCHOOL

(East Parish)

(Key No. 54)

Established as a District around 1820 and continued until 1909 when it was discontinued and combined with the First District in East Hartland. For many years this was familiarly known as "The West Wood School" but few records are available in connection with its activities.

THE NORTH HOLLOW DISTRICT

There is no record of the date on which this District was established but as this section was settled early, there is every reason to believe that it was set off by the First Society in the 1770's. It is sometimes designated as District No. 3 and may have been the third set off after No. 1 on the East Mountain and No. 2 on the West Mountain. The original schoolhouse burned in 1870 and was replaced with a new building in 1872. The new building cost \$1,200. and was built by A. W. Coe. The District Committee had a difficult time in connection with collecting the necessary district taxes to pay for it. The schoolhouse was remodeled in 1913 and the District closed in 1931.



—Courtesy Lewis S. Mills

North Hollow District School



—Courtesy Lewis S. Mills

South Hollow District School

THE SOUTH HOLLOW DISTRICT

This section of Hartland Hollow came under the jurisdiction of the Second Ecclesiastical Society after its formation in 1780, and this District was set off shortly after that date. In 1820, like all other Districts, it became separated from the Ecclesiastical authority and operated under the District Committee system until the town took over all of the school districts in October, 1909. The schoolhouse was located at the foot of the West Mountain a little west of the Cyrus Miller Tavern. On high ground, it overlooked the south part of the valley. Many of the pupils attending this school in its later days are still residents of Hartland and refer to their brief sojourn within its walls with a great deal of sentiment. School and District discontinued about 1935.

CHAPTER VIII

Inns and Taverns

THE CYRUS MILLER TAVERN

(By Leslie Miller Feley)

The Cyrus Miller Tavern was built at the foot of the West Mountain, about forty-five rods west of the East Branch of the Farmington River, in the Great Hollow, so-called. Its site was at the junction of three roads.

The lot upon which it was erected was No. 18 in the First Division of the Town of Hartland and was laid out to the heirs of Captain John Sheldon, a Hartford proprietor, and contained one hundred sixteen acres. It was from this strip that John Sheldon deeded land for the east and west road which passed the tavern.

In 1802, this same road was changed to a turnpike with the tollgate and sheds south of the tavern. This turnpike led from the Connecticut River to Norfolk where it united with the Greenwoods turnpike which in turn extended to Albany.

Situated as it was between the two Hartland mountains, this tavern was unusually attractive. Its gambrel roof and the one-story annex running northward gave the whole a low rambling appearance. The tavern sign was displayed near the bar room door. It was a large wooden ball suspended from an arched board.

Bordering the pathway from the road to the front door there was a profusion of old-fashioned flowers: these included cinnamon, damask, white roses, larkspur, lilacs, jonquils, phlox and daffodils. West of the house were eight large apple trees and in front were a tamarack, locust and large maple.

The large double doors that led into the house from the south contained glass cut in the shape of a heart. They swung inward and at night were barred by means of a wooden bar slipped into staples driven into the door casings. During the day they were kept closed by a latch and were opened from the outside by an iron handle. The doors opened into a porch (or entry) leading from which there was an open stairway to the hall room above.

A closet filled the enclosure under the stairs, a triangular doorway which opened into this closet was finished in grooved molding. The railing, the hand-rail of which was also grooved, was of a slender appearance. At the western end of the hall where the first stairs started, the ceiling was arched and the entire stairway was spanned above with a graceful arch.

Opening from the end of the porch was a bar room. The entire western side of this room was paneled and the other sides were paneled as high as the windows. The ceiling was low, the floor was of wide pine boards. Double shutters relieved the bareness of the windows. The frame



Cyrus Miller Tavern in Hartland Hollow—picture Circa 1910

—Courtesy Edith V. Miller

of the fireplace which occupied the central part of the west side of the room was of soap-stone; the stone forming the mantel was about six inches in width and was supported by stone pilasters the bases of which were rounded.

The parlor of the house was located in the south-east corner. It also had a low ceiling, a large fireplace, inside shutters and paneling on all sides as high as the windows.

At the north part of the house opening into both the bar room and parlor was a long room with another fireplace having a built-in oven. This room had a high ceiling with cased summer beams projecting below the plaster. Two stairways led from this room, one to the cellar and the other to the chamber above. There was at each end of the room a small room used for closet space.

The ball room was a large room extending across the eastern end of the building. The upper part of its walls, (along the ceiling) was bordered by a molding like that of the cornice and above the front doors. Two large beams and braces projected from the walls on either end of the east side and between these beams and the roof were two small square windows. The window cases together with these base-boards, beams and moldings gave the upper sides of the room the appearance of being paneled, while the lower portion gave the appearance of a wide border. The upper part of the north and south walls slanted with the slant of the roof and the ceiling of the room was arched, making the whole effect graceful.

On the west side of the second story were several sleeping rooms. In an annex on the north side there was another stone chimney. Here was located the kitchen. Beyond the kitchen was a bedroom, a pantry and a long hall leading to a woodshed. The cellar of this tavern has an interest all its own. Tradition is that the hatchway on the western side of the building was large enough to allow a yoke of oxen to enter and, although the great stone chimney base took up a large amount of the space in the cellar, there was sufficient room for the team to drive around it.

Another tradition tells that in the early part of the nineteenth century iron ore was transported on horseback from "Ore Hill" Salisbury to Boston over this turnpike and invariably the drivers of the horses stopped over night at the Miller Tavern.

Family Facts and Anecdotes

In 1780, (May 30th), Epaphras Sheldon deeded the lot of one hundred sixteen acres (upon which the tavern was built) to Nathan Hatch. October 25, 1786, Nathan Hatch deeded it to Captain Jonathan Miller, Jr. of Farmington. April 14, 1794, Captain Jonathan Miller of Farmington deeded twenty acres of the above lot to his son, Cyrus Miller, also of Farmington. It remained the property of Cyrus Miller until his death October 1, 1849, after which it went to his son, Jonathan Miller. After the death of Jonathan Miller, the house, or tavern, and farm were owned by his oldest son, George W. Miller, who died in 1908, and it was sold by his heirs to the Hartford Water Board.

Captain Jonathan Miller was born in Northampton, Massachusetts, February 13, 1729, and removed with his father's family in 1745 to Avon and settled in the Cider Brook district of that town. He married Mrs. Sarah North, born September 18, 1734, widow of Joseph North, late of Farmington.

Captain Jonathan was a Revolutionary soldier and the story is told that while he was away to war, his wife, Sarah, carried provisions including many bushels of rye over the great beam of the barn and concealed it in the hay mow from the British soldiers, (in Avon). Captain Jonathan and his wife, Sarah, removed to Hartland prior to 1800 and lived here until their death. Captain Jonathan Miller died July 29, 1810, and Sarah North Miller died April 9, 1811. They were buried in the Hartland Hollow Cemetery where stones mark their graves. These graves were subsequently moved to the East Hartland Cemetery when the Metropolitan District flooded Hartland Hollow.

Cyrus Miller was born in Northington Society, Farmington township, Connecticut, February 17, 1770. His first wife was Roxana Barber, born August 17, 1773. They were married in 1795. His second wife was Damaris Mills, daughter of Jared Mills of Canton, born June 13, 1793; they were married July 26, 1824. Roxana Barber Miller died December 10, 1823; Damaris Mills Miller died January 28, 1873, and Cyrus Miller died October 1, 1849. They were buried in Hartland Hollow Cemetery where a monument marks their last resting place.

Later History of the Tavern

In 1932, the facade of the Miller Tavern was removed to the National Flower Show of Hartford where it was used as a background to an old-fashion garden exhibit sponsored by C. H. Sierman, Inc., and there it won first prize. In April, 1934, this same facade was taken to the National Flower Show in Boston where it again took first prize. The facade was later sold to an individual in Boston who planned to make it a feature of the garden of her country estate at Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts.

The frame and remaining parts of the tavern were purchased by Mr. Frederick Fuessenich of Torrington, Connecticut; these he removed and expects to rebuild on Tollgate Hill between Litchfield and Torrington.

OTHER INNS AND TAVERNS

By Stanley A. Ransom

The first inns and taverns were little more than private homes situated at strategic locations, usually at the intersection of roads used for travel by stagecoaches and at later periods, private conveyances.

Each had a common room for the use of travelers and accommodations for horses and traveling equipment. The guests, however, had no choice of food, but were expected to partake *table de hote* of whatever had been selected for the day's menu.

Most of these inns were in operation for only a few years and with the exception of the Miller Tavern, eventually attained the status of a private home.

THE RED LION INN

Built in 1796 by Thomas Burnham and operated as the original RED LION INN, it was situated in North Hartland close by the East Branch of the Farmington River. The Inn did a thriving business in the early days of the town as it was located on the Old County Road. Tom Burnham was one of the signers of the petition for the County Road. It went right by the south side of the house. It was surveyed in 1802, built and accepted in the fall of 1808. It started at the Old State House in Hartford and came through to Massachusetts State Line to meet the Turnpike No. 11 that led to Becket. It was used as a stage road from Blandford, Massachusetts, to Hartford, Connecticut, and later West Granville to Hartford.

At one time, this section was one of the largest business districts in town with a post office, school, inn, mills, and a number of prosperous farms along the river.

Before the Civil War the Inn had moved to Stockbridge, Massachusetts and the mills were no longer in operation, but the post office and school were retained until the early 1930's.

The last half of the nineteenth century saw a number of changes in ownership until the property was finally acquired by Edward J. Barnes in 1901. The property was sold October 25, 1911 to the Old Newgate Coon Club, who maintained it as their clubhouse until it was sold to the Metropolitan District Commission in January of 1937 for \$24,500.



—Courtesy Georgiana Feley Rebillard

The Red Lion Inn built in 1796 by Thomas Burnham. Later Old Newgate Coon Club as it appeared in 1935.

The following description taken from the Sixtieth Anniversary History of the Old Newgate Coon Club gives an indication of the locale as it appeared in 1930, and we quote:

“What a beautiful location that Hartland Hollow property was—old Hubbard River tumbling along about seventy-five feet in front of the door, which in normal flow, gave the music of gentle rain—hemmed in by the Hartland Mountains rising 600 feet high on each side of the valley made for short days and long nights so much the better for coon hunters; and then, the mammoth elm tree at the corner of the house, twenty-two feet six inches in circumference (1930) with a total spread of 172 feet; also, the schoolhouse and meadow with its acres of white and yellow daisies and fringe of red raspberries.”

Since 1937, the building has been torn down and the place on which it stood is now covered by the waters of the Metropolitan District Reservoir.

RIDEOUT MOORE'S TAVERN

Rideout Moore's Tavern was located at the top of the West Mountain approximately two miles west of the Miller Tavern site.

Rideout Moore came from Granby, Connecticut, about 1800, and built a large house at the junction of the Hartland-Granby Turnpike and the Granville-Barkhamsted Road in West Hartland.

From 1800 until his death on December 4, 1848, at the age of 83, he did a flourishing business at this location. The Hartland Probate Records show his estate was a large one for the period. The following is an interesting item:

Excerpt for Will of Rideout Moore: “I give to my wife, Vashty, the use of my still to still her cider so long as my still shall last.”

Total inventory of his estate amounted to \$11,890.65, a large proportion of which consisted of notes due his account from nearly everyone of prominence in the West Hartland section. It would appear that most of these were due to cover bar bills, which had accumulated over a period of time. The items of beds and blankets listed in the inventory revealed that his establishment was quite extensive.

The use of the property for tavern purposes ended with the death of Rideout Moore. Later Carlos Holcomb inherited the property and sold it to William Spencer, Jr. For many years it was the home of Carl Nelson, Sr., and more recently it has been maintained as a general store by Frank Celio and at present, Thomas Dakin.

ARNOLD OATMAN'S HOTEL

Situated in West Hartland Center at the corner of the road running from West Granville to Barkhamsted and the road leading to Hartland Pond and Colebrook River, Arnold Oatman's Hotel was an overnight stop for travelers and a meeting place for local farmers.

Discontinued as an Inn shortly after 1850, it is now owned by the estate of Edward Ransom, and Perry Ransom. The ball-room on the second floor still exists, but remodeling at various times has removed the other Inn characteristics.

A few Inns have at various times been in operation at scattered locations, in the early days in the Western section of the town. Eldad Shepard is credited with being the first Innkeeper in West Hartland. His hostelry was located at (Key #WH-72) which would place it on the east side of the road, midway between houses now owned by Mrs. Pauline E. Crunden and Augustin Feley.

Peletiah Ransom also ran a hotel just north of the Hogback for a few years between 1852 and 1855.

INNS ON THE EAST MOUNTAIN

Descriptions of the Inns and Taverns located on the East Mountain are based on information contained in notebook of David N. Gaines. (S.A.R.)

NEHEMIAH ANDREWS' HOTEL

(Key #EH-24)

The first hotel in Hartland was located on the East Mountain, but not in the vicinity of the section which was later known as "Hartland Green". Nehemiah Andrews settled on what is now Ringerman Hill Road. In this same section Thomas Giddings, the first settler, and his brother, Joshua, were located. At that time it was considered the spot which would likely become the site of the future Meeting House. In fact, the first ordained minister, Rev. Starling Graves, was ordained on a hill adjacent to Nehemiah Andrews' Hotel, and Andrews was forbidden to sell liquor during the Ordination Ceremonies. It was a source of considerable vexation when the Committee appointed to set the stake for the Meeting House decided on the location finally chosen. Andrews, however, not only continued his hotel at this site for some years, but another hotel came into operation just a few rods to the east of his establishment. The house burned in the Spring of 1897, the fire having been caused by smoking hams in a barrel.

HOTEL OF JONATHAN COUCH

(Key #EH-22)

The house at this site was built by Major Uriel Holmes, Jr., who rented it to Jonathan Couch with barn, still-house and still. According to the notebook of David N. Gaines, it came to be known as the "Haunted House" from the fact that it is claimed a peddler was murdered therein, but he goes on to add that "no one believes this now". Later, Erastus Beman ran a hotel at this site for many years.

URIEL HOLMES

This house, more familiarly known in later years as the "1776 House", or the "Coffee Shop", was built by Uriel Holmes who did not buy the land until May 5, 1780. According to David N. Gaines' notebook, and we quote:

"Ely Andrews sold this to Uriel Holmes, 9 acres, May 5, 1780—Vol. 2-154 . . . What Uriel Holmes did with this house, I don't know. Tradition says he moved it across the road west of the church and moved the one Brewster Higby built, put the two together and made the old hotel. I think this is correct for there are certainly two old frames of houses."

This property changed hands many times and some of the early owners must have operated this as an Inn, although their names or a distinguishing name for the hotel is not given.



—Courtesy Georgiana Feley Rebillard

House built by Uriel Holmes before 1780. Used as hotel for many years, as it appeared in early 1900's.

BUNNELL'S HOTEL

For quick and easy site identification, this is on the site of the first house west of the First Congregational Church building. Built by Uriel Holmes around 1780, or moved to this site from another location, Smith and Spencer operated it as a hotel in 1798. Watson Gibbons purchased it in 1843 and added a store, and built an addition for ball-room. Sold to Philo Case in 1850. Later owned by Solomon J. Bunnell who operated it as a hotel for some years. Hotel discontinued around 1870. Property later owned by Lizzie B. Emmons. This was apparently the last and most popular of the Inns operated on the East Mountain.

CHAPTER IX

Agriculture and Industry

AGRICULTURE

Agriculture has been the dominant occupation of Hartland's inhabitants especially during the first 150 years. The immediate need to become as self-sustaining as possible forced the first settlers to clear the land and plant crops to supply food both for man and domestic animals.

Grains—now all but forgotten—were raised in abundance. Wheat, Rye, Barley, Oats, Corn, Buckwheat and even Flax were necessary to survive and to use as “barter” for there never was a time when money was plentiful.



—Courtesy Frank D. Case

Typical example of early-type houses built in Hartland Hollow. This was the home of Samuel Blakeslee, later owned by Josiah Ferry.

Certain areas of the town were better suited for husbandry than others. Hartland Hollow was a choice spot—rich in alluvial soil and free from the boulders existing on the East and West mountains. Fields and pastures were made by clearing the land of the loose stones and building them into walls, two men and a team of oxen building one rod of wall each day.

Each farm became a symbol of hard won independence on the part of the individual owner. This independence was reflected in the character and philosophy of those who wrested the stubborn fields from the wilderness of stony hillsides and granite boulders.

By 1845 the products of Hartland's farms and mills were considerable.

In the publication entitled "Statistics of the Condition and Products of Certain Branches of Industry in Connecticut, For the Year Ending October 1, 1845" issued by the General Assembly and based on the return of the assessors for each town, the returns from Hartland are listed as follows:

Calico Factory—1, yards of printed goods 2,000,000, value \$175,000, Capital \$75,000, Male Employees 40, Female Employees 6.

Coach and Wagon Factories—3, Value of manufactures \$4,500, Capital \$1,350, Employees 7.

Tannery—1, hides tanned 250.

Leather manufactured, Value \$500, Capital \$1,000, Employees 1.

Boots manufactured—36, shoes 750, Value \$1,875, Employees 7.

Lumber prepared for market—263,000 feet, Value \$15,780, Employees 20.

Fire Wood prepared for market—600 cords, Value \$600, Employees 35.

Sheep of all kinds—1,103, Value \$1,650, wool produced, 4382 lbs., Value \$1,533.70; Horses 135, Value \$5,400; neat cattle 1,207, Value \$18,105; Swine 408, Value \$4,896.

Indian Corn—4,043 bushels, Value \$3,234.40; wheat 20 bushels, Value \$20; rye 1,675 bushels, Value \$1,440; barley 24 bushels, Value \$18; oats 5,815 bushels, Value \$2,616.75; potatoes 16,324 bushels, Value \$5,441; other esculents 3,360 bushels, Value \$571.20; hay 2,567 tons, Value \$25,670; flax 217 lbs., Value \$36.16; fruit 32,528 bushels, Value \$3,252.80.

Butter 26,120 lbs., Value \$3,918; cheese 95,890 lbs., Value \$6,712.30; honey 375 lbs., Value \$62.50.

The pattern of life on the family farms of New England during the last century is too well known to need elaboration. Hartland differed little from the set pattern. The industry of the individual governed the ultimate result of success or failure. Some prospered to a high degree—others left their fallow fields and dilapidated buildings in the second exodus which began in 1900.

Hartland Hollow was an exception. Tobacco had come to be one of the main crops in this section and with the advent of automobiles and good roads—new markets were opened for milk. Large dairies, with tobacco as a secondary source of income, were conducted until the en-

tire area was acquired by the Metropolitan District Commission in the 1930's. In later years the names of Augustin Feley, Byron Stratton, Leon Dickinson, Alfred Cables, Waldo and Wilbur Miller became synonymous with the large farms of this area.



—Courtesy Harold French

Harvesting Tobacco on farm of Leon M. Dickinson, Hartland Hollow.

The last of the larger farms on the East mountain are those of George and later Leonard Ransom and Frank Cleveland.

On the West mountain a few dairy farms still exist. These are at present operated by Perry M. Ransom, Robert Ransom, Mabel H. Cole and Dorothy and George Day. With these and a few more exceptions, many of the fields devoted so intensively to agriculture in the early years are now the property of the Metropolitan District Commission or the State Forest. Hartland is fast becoming a "bed-room" town for those who make their livelihood outside its borders—returning each evening to claim their right of residence in the stimulating atmosphere of the East and West Mountains.

MILLS AND INDUSTRIES

The immediate necessity for raw materials to provide food and shelter for man and beast within the shortest possible time made it imperative that saw and grist-mills be established immediately. The first saw and grist-mills in Hartland were located on the Hubbard Brook where it crosses the town line in Hartland Hollow and becomes part

of the East Branch of the Farmington. The saw mills were of the "up and down" type, the circular saw not coming into use until much later. These were first operated by Samuel Benjamin, Uriel Holmes, and later Titus Hayes (who was officially appointed to grind the grain for Revolutionary War Soldiers). Later a carding and fulling mill was in operation at this same location. The choice of these sites is self-evident. Wherever water power was available—a mill of some kind was in operation.

These mills were continued for many years and supplied the lifeblood of the early inhabitants.

In the early days, Potash was much in demand and "works" were set up to produce this in volume. In East Hartland one of the ministers operated one of these for some years. The product was used to make "soft soap" and was derived from wood ashes.

Josiah Bushnell had a dish mill located on the site of what is now Howell's Pond in West Hartland. (Key No. 98.) Here he made trenchers, bowls, spoons, and other utensils from beech and maple. In 1798, Levi Sutcliffe was the owner of the mill. May 3, 1793, Abel Brace leased land around the saw-mill dam, which he desired to raise, making a



—Courtesy Lewis S. Mills

Site of Titus Hayes' grist-mill and other early mills located in North Hollow as it appeared in 1945.

reservoir for a winter supply of water for Brace's Saw Mills about a mile below on the same stream. The privilege granted was from September to May for 25 years.

One of the products produced in sizeable quantities was cider and cider brandy. By the early 1800's, the orchards planted some 30 years before had reached a mature state and cider mills and distilleries were located in various sections. The last distillery was operated by J. A. Miller in Hartland Hollow. Cider mills were continued until after 1900, the last two being those of Talcott Banning in Hartland Hollow and Leroy French in West Hartland. Early consumption of these two beverages was enormous and the cider mills and distilleries did a flourishing business until the effect of temperance societies and other changing conditions brought about their discontinuance.

Tanneries were conducted to supply leather and these were located in each section of the town. Thomas Sugden had a tannery in East Hartland and Diodate I. Ensign (Key No. 62) had one in West Hartland, which his sons carried on for many years.

WARD'S MILL

The largest industry ever to be operated within Hartland's borders was that of John Ward and Sons which began in 1836, as a Calico Factory. One of the Ward brothers went to England and spent five years in absorbing the process and manufacture of calico. Returning to Hartland he became instrumental in establishing a mill for the production of this cloth and his brothers became associated with him. The mill was situated on the West Branch of the Farmington River near the Hartland town line north of the village of Hitchcocksville. A dam was built across the river at this point with raceway to supply water power.

This mill, being one of the first in the United States to produce calico did a thriving business for many years even erecting a boarding house for its employees. Lester Taylor in *his Memorial History of Hartford County, Connecticut*, states: "In 1836, John Ward and his sons, James and Michael, from Adams, Massachusetts, built large print-works on the West Branch of the Farmington, near the Barkhamsted line. They made from two hundred thousand to three hundred thousand dollars worth of goods a year, but in 1857, the firm dissolved. Little was done with the property until 1874, when the sons of Michael Ward began there the manufacture of paper. They were making about two tons of fine manilla paper a day."

The waters of the West Branch were found to contain mineral elements exceptionally well suited to the manufacture of manilla paper and the mill was converted to that purpose in 1874. It continued to be operated by the Ward family for many years and later by their descendants; the last being the Gates family who operated under the name "Setag", which is Gates spelled backwards.

Although located in Hartland, it became generally known as the "Riverton Paper Mill" during the last 60 years of its existence. It burned completely during the late 1940's and only ruins overgrown with brush now mark the spot.

Other Mills

Over the middle years several small family shops existed for a short time. Among them may be mentioned:

L. K. Gaines Carriage Shop in East Hartland, which was located at the site which was later to become the residence of David N. Gaines and is now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Austin.

E. Gilman Carriage Shop in West Hartland, which was located just south of the Second Congregational Church on the site of the home more recently occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Mortimer B. Foster.

Leonard Dickinson operated a birch mill in Hartland Hollow for a number of years. In this mill black birch brush was ground into a pulp after which birch oil was extracted from it. This was never a large operation, but during the winter months provided local farmers an opportunity to harvest and dispose of their birch brush at a profit.

Shingle Mills were operated in East Hartland by Homer Fuller and others; and in West Hartland by Frank Osborn and Correll French. These were discontinued shortly after 1900.

Earl Stanley had an "iron works" in 1797 on what is now Old Forge Road in West Hartland. It was discontinued when he died in 1811.

Blacksmith Shops were conducted at various locations until horses were replaced by the automobile. Some of those in East Hartland were conducted by Benjamin Parker, Attenbur Smith and many others. In West Hartland were those of Uriah Hyde, Bela Squires and Joseph Carrier.

Bates Mill on Mill Street in West Hartland was originally built by Abel Brace and Stephen Bushnell in 1792. This was operated as a "Corn-mill" for a number of years and later came into possession of the Bates family, who converted the mill to the manufacture of shovel and hoe handles together with plane woods. This mill was located on the Dean Brook in the deep ravine at the south of the Bridge crossing the stream on the present Pinehurst Road.

From 1904 to 1910, Albert J. Hall and Sons, James B. Hall, Frank and Ernest operated a Piano Factory on what is now the Milo Coe Road. This was a combination steam saw-mill to which had been added a dry kiln and cabinet shop. Only the piano frames were made after which they were shipped to Boston for further and final assembly.

In the 1880's, Anson B. Tiffany had a so-called Doll Factory on Center Hill. The dolls were made by local women and Anson B. Tiffany peddled them around the country from horse and wagon.

A mica mine was in operation in East Hartland for a number of years. A strata of mica was discovered on the property formerly owned by Everett Emmons who operated it for some years. It is north of the present Ski Trail. The product of this mine was used in the doors of

stoves and is more commonly known as "isinglass". The strata soon ran out and the mine discontinued.

The only manufacturing industry left in Hartland today is the shop of Nathaniel Emmons in East Hartland. This is a woodturning and fabricating shop engaged in the manufacture of clothespins and kindred items.

The sites of all previous mills and shops have been taken over by forest or underbrush and are no longer recognizable.

CHAPTER X

Military History

Whenever there has been a need for defense of "This Land of Ours", there has never been a lack of patriotism on the part of Hartland men. Even before they became part of the Hartland scene, many of them had fought in the Wars with the French and Indians.

THE FOLLOWING HARTLAND MEN FOUGHT IN THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WARS

*Andrews, Samuel	*Hutchens, Benjamin
Banning, Benjamin	Hutchens, John
*Banning, Samuel	*Jones, Asa
Bates, Jonathan	Jones, Israel
Bates, John	*Jones, John
*Baxter, Nathan	*Kellogg, Ezekiel
Beach, Phineas	Kendall, John
Belden, Ebenezer	*Mack, John
*Benjamin, Samuel	*Mack, Jonathan
*Bill, Jonathan, Sr.	*Miller, Jonathan
*Bishop, Abraham	*Miller, Samuel
*Brockway, Edward	*Munrow, Daniel
Bushnell, Abner	*Negras, John
*Bushnell, Daniel	*Osborn, Abraham
Bushnell, Josiah	*Phelps, Charles
*Bushnell, Phineas	Rathbone, Daniel
Cadwell, Moses	Rathbone, William
*Chapman, William	*Reed, Benjamin
*Church, Uriah	*Sawyer, Asa
*Clark, Elijah	*Sawyer, Jacob
Couch, Jonathan	*Sawyer, Samuel
Couch, Simon	*Scoville, Micah
*Daniels, John	Searles, John
*Fellows, Isaac	*Seward, Daniel
*Fox, Thomas, Sr.	Shepherd, Eldad
Fox, Thomas, Jr.	Shipman, Jonathan
*Fuller, Thomas	Tiffany, Ephriam
*Giddings, Thomas	*Treat, John
Graves, Starling, Rev.	*Williams, William
*Hastings, John	*Wright, Beriah
Hosmer, Thomas	*Wright, Ephriam
*Hungerford, James	

*Names marked with a star fought in both French and Indian Wars and the War of the Revolution.

The official census figures for Hartland are listed as 500 in 1774, and 961 in 1782. It seems incredible that of this number 359 Hartland men participated in the Revolutionary War. It is interesting to further note that 41 of these had seen previous service in the French and Indian Wars. The records have been compiled by careful research, however, and are believed to be correct: The following will explain how and by whom these names and statistics were ascertained:

June 17, 1930 was one of the few occasions when residents of Hartland paused in their various occupations to honor those Hartland men who had served their country in its several wars from the beginning through World War I. The date being the 155th anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill, special emphasis was given to the Revolutionary War period and the early days of Hartland's struggle for a civic establishment. Over 5,000 people were in attendance, and the event was a huge success.

One of the inspiring events on the program was the review by His Excellency Governor John H. Trumbull and his staff of "The Old Continental Army" consisting of Hartland men who had served in the Revolutionary War, each of whom was represented by a Boy Scout.

The following excerpt from the program of the day explains the composition and details of this feature of the parade:

"In order that it might be known how many Hartland men served in the Revolutionary War a study has been made of same, and it has been found that 356 Hartland men responded to the call. In this list are also included the names of those who lived in that part of Barkhamsted (one mile square) which was set off to the First Ecclesiastical Society of Hartland by the General Court of the Colony. It also included a few names of settlers who lived just over the line in other towns, but who were buried in Hartland Cemeteries. Not all of these men lived in Hartland at any one time during the War, but all are believed to have lived here at some time.

"This list is largely the work of Mr. David N. Gaines, Town Clerk and Historian of Hartland, who has given years to the research work needed for its production. He has been assisted by Mr. George S. Godard, State Librarian; Mr. Charles R. Hale, Chairman National Committee Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, on marking soldiers' graves, and Mr. Edward P. Jones.

"Among the 356 Hartland men there were found to be one Colonel; one Lieutenant Colonel; four Majors; twenty-two Captains and eighty-eight other officers above the rank of Private. There were also two hundred and forty Privates."

The list has been revised to include three additional names discovered later, and the Roster changed to alphabetical order according to name and rank. The letters and figures at the right of the names indicate the location on the maps in the front and back of this book, where the soldiers lived. All of these names and map locations are the result of many years of research on the part of David N. Gaines:

LIST OF HARTLAND MEN
SERVING IN THE OLD CONTINENTAL ARMY
OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

Colonel	Israel Jones, Jr.
Lieutenant Colonel	Benjamin Hutchens
Major	Daniel Cone
Major	Uriel Holmes
Major	John Skinner
Major	Theodore Woodbridge

Captains

Nehemiah Andrews, Sr.	E.H. 24	Samuel Hall	E.H.
Samuel Banning, Jr.	W.H. 121	Nathan Hurd	
Oliver Bates	E.H. 223	Israel Jones, Sr.	B.E.H. 35-36
Daniel Beeman	E.H. 5	Joel Meacham	E.H. 81
Abel Brace	W.H. 40	Stephen Pardee	
Daniel Bills	E.H. 147a	John Porter	H.H. 174a
Alexander Bushnell	E.H. 67	Jonathan Roberts	E.H. 134
Timothy Coe	W.H. 83b	Jonathan Shipman	
Elijah Coe	W.H.	Thomas Sill	W.H. 13-111-185
Elezear Ensign	H.H. 177a	Abner Waters	E.H. 184
Thomas Giddings, Sr.	E.H. 27	Israel Williams	W.H. 68

Lieutenants

Samuel Banning, Sr.	E.H. 24	Isaac Fellows	E.H. 117a
Thomas Beeman	E.H. 3	Samuel Jones	B.E.H. 36
Elisha Booth	H.H. 183a	Joseph Meacham	
John Borden	E.H. 31	Abel Moses	E.H. 16-18-81
Isaac Burnham	E.H. 80	Eldad Shepard	E.H. 72; W.H. 68
Nathaniel Church		John Stewart	W.H. 33a
Uriah Church, Sr.	E.H. 85-87	James Robinson	W.H. 77

Ensigns

Joel Ackley	E.H. 29	Jedediah Bushnell	W.H. 169
Samuel Banning, Jr.	W.H. 121	Nathan Hatch	E.H. 177
John Bates	E.H. 171	Daniel Kingsbury	E.H.G. 9
Elisha Beeman	E.H. 17	Cornelius Merry	E.H. 221
Samuel Benjamin	E.H. 111-159a	Benjamin Norton	E.H. 164

Sergeants

Asa Andrews	E.H. 24	Thomas Fuller	
Samuel Andrews	E.H. 26-53	Benjamin Giddings	H.H. 185
Bartholomew Barrett		John Gilbert	W.H. 28
Jonathan Bills, Sr.		Joseph Gilbert	
Abisha Bingham		Elihu Hall	E.H. 85-110
Joseph Brace		Samuel Hall	
Edward Brockway	E.H. 50	Asa Jones	B.P.M.
Isaac Burnham	E.H. 80	Amos Kellogg	E.H. 102
Reuben Burnham	W.H. 87-157	Isaac Pardee	E.H. 156
Phineas Bushnell		Strong Sanford	B.E.H. 44
William Chapman	E.H. 33a	Samuel Stewart	
Uriah Churh, Jr.	E.H. 85	William Taylor	E.H. 88

Corporals

Isaac Olmsted	W.H. 87-22	David Daniels	E.H. 89
William Porter	E.H. 174	Peter DeWolf	E.H. 134
Nathan Baxter		Daniel Driggs	E.H. 43
Jonathan Bills, Jr.	E.H. 84a-146	Jonathan Dunham	
John Call		William Fellows	E.H. 117a
Joseph Cowles	E.H. 248	Samuel Fuller	E.H. 9
Samuel Phelps	E.H. 183a	John Hudson	W.H. 41
William Thrall	W.H. 216	Wm. Clark Jones	B.E.H. 35-36
John Thomas	W.H. 80-185	Samuel Hills	
Samuel Clark		Benjamin Mack	E.H. 147a
Walter Chase		Abner Morley	E.H.G. 13
Obed Crosby	W.H.		

Quartermaster

Phineas Coe	E.H. 141
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Surgeon

Dr. Daniel Adams

Cornet

Lemuel Kingsbury	E.H. 96	John Curtiss	W.H. 94
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Drummers

David Fox	W.H. 90	Nicholas Sweet	
Samuel Green		Brazilla Wiley	E.H.G. 16
Joel Robinson			

Trumpeters

Daniel Crane	W.H. 115	Abraham Osborn	E.H. 1
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Fifers

Samuel Beach	W.H. 134	Joseph Gilbert	W.H. 28
Joel Clark	E.H. 121	John Wheeler	W.H. 144
Jeremiah Crane	W.H. 28	William Williams	E.H. 102a

Privates

Atkins, Samuel	W.H. 113-115	Butler, Jonathan	E.H. 33
Atwood, John	E.H. 14	Cadwell, Reuben	E.H. 63
Banning, Abner	E.H. 135-136	Campbell, Daniel	
Bates, Hendale	E.H. 132	Canfield, Daniel	W.H. 77
Bates, Phineas	W.H. 91	Case, John M.	W.H. 91
Bates, Samuel	W.H. 167	Chambers, John	
Beach, Ashbel	W.H. 134-136	Chandler, John	E.H. 71½
Beach, Ezekiel	W.H. 134	Chapman, Ebenezer	E.H. 82a
Beach, Zophar	W.H.	Chapman, Paul	E.H. 33a
Benjamin, Asher	H.H. 159	Chappel, Noah	E.H. 116a
Benjamin, Daniel	E.H. 159a	Chittenden, Ichabod	
Bills, Daniel	E.H. 147a	Church, Samuel	E.H. 87
Bishop, Abraham	W.H. 98	Clark, Elijah	H.H. 152a
Blakesley, Samuel	E.H. 173	Clark, Isaac	E.H. 102
Boardman, Moses	E.H. 89	Clark, Nathaniel	E.H. 103
Borden, Samuel	W.H. 175	Clark, Samuel	E.H. 34
Brainard, Ashel	E.H. 61	Clemens, Richard	E.H. 134
Brown, David		Coe, Asher	W.H.
Bush, Aaron	E.H. 65	Coe, Elijah	E.H. 141
Bushnell, Daniel	W.H. 43	Cook, Jonathan	E.H. 10
Bushnell, Martin	W.H. 92	Corning, Malachi	E.H. 174a
Bushnell, Thomas	E.H. 264	Couch, David	E.H. 219

Privates

Couch, Jonathan, Jr.	H.H. 218	Griswold, Jonathan	E.H. 166a
Couch, Timothy	E.H. 168a	Hale, Reuben	W.H. 43
Cowdrey, Ambrose	E.H. 117	Hall, Ebenezer	E.H. 28
Cowdrey, Asa	E.H. 118	Hall, Reuben	E.H. 43
Cowdrey, Edward	E.H. 114-115	Harger, Elijah	E.H. 260
Cowdrey, Moses	E.H. 121	Harrison, John	
Cowles, Elisha	E.H. 32	Harting, John	
Cowles, John		Hastings, John	
Cracray, Uriah		Hayes, Ezekiel	B.E.H. 37—B 221
Crane, Aaron		Hayes, John	E.H. 216
Crane, Ebenezer	W.H. 114	Hayes, Seth	H.H. 157
Crosby, Samuel	W.H. 60	Hayes, Titus	E.H. 156
Crosby, Simeon	W.H. 77	Hewtanock, Francis	
Crosby, Starlin	W.H. 44-78	Hidsley, James	
Crosby, Timothy	W.H. 77	Hills, Erastus	
Daniel, John	E.H. 111	Hitchcock, Oliver	E.H. 247a
Daniels, Peletiah, Sr.	E.H. 92	Hoadley, Ebenezer	E.H. 29
Daniels, Peletiah, Jr.		Holcomb, Peter	E.H. 8
Daniels, Reuben	E.H. 123a	Holcomb, Peter, Jr.	
Darling, Benjamin		Houghnagle, Peter	
Dean, Reuben	E.H. 68	Hutchens, oJhn	E.H. 92b
Dimock, Elezear	E.H. 110	Hungerford, James	W.H. 41½-46½
Dubbs, Cyrus		Jones, Asahel	B.P.M.
Emmons, Oliver	E.H. 63	Jones, Asa	B.P.M.
Emmons, Jonathan	E.H. 63	Jones, Benoni	B.P.M.
Ensign, Daniel	W.H. 177	Jones, Charles	E.H. 195
Ensign, Timothy	W.H. 65	Jones, John	E.H. 107
Evans, Benoni	E.H. 152a	Jones, Thomas	B.E.H. 36
Fields, John	W.H. 12—E.H. 121	Kellogg, Ezekiel	
Foot, Joseph	E.H. 182a	Kingsbury, Daniel	
Fox, Ephriam, Sr.	W.H. 42	Kingsbury, Phineas, Jr.	E.H.G. 6
Fox, Ephriam, Jr.	W.H. 42	Lane, David	
Fox, Harris	W.H. 90	Mack, Gurdon	
Fox, Nathan	W.H. 90	Jack, John	
Fox, Thomas	W.H. 90-95	Mack, Zeublon	E.H. 145
Fox, William	W.H. 95	Meacham, Isaac	E.H. 76
Frazier, Daniel	W.H. 21	Meeker, Aaron	E.H. 240a
Frazier, Thomas	E.H.	Meeker, Josejh	E.H. 240a
Fuller, Ichabod	E.H. 9-201	Meeker, Josiah	E.H. 240a
Fuller, William	E.H. 11	Miller, Jonathan	H.H.
Gates, Aaron	E.H. 134	Miller, Samuel	E.H. 165
Gates, Brazaliel, Jr.	E.H. 134	Miller, William	
Gates, Jessa	E.H. 122a	Miner, Joel	E.H.G. 3
Gates, Uriah	E.H.G. 6	Monroe, Daniel	
Giddings, David	E.H. 12	Moses, Abner	
Giddings, Daniel	E.H. 27	Moses, Ashbel	E.H. 19-20
Giddings, Elisha	E.H. 74	Moses, Abel	E.H. 16-81
Giddings, Festus	E.H. 27	Moses, Martin	E.H. 15a-16
Giddings, Jabez	E.H. 27	Moses, Seba	E.H. 19
Giddings, John	E.H. 49	Negas, John	
Giddings, Joshua	E.H. 74	Norton, Elantham	E.H. 164a
Giddings, Niles	E.H. 45a, W.H. 93	Norton, Levi	
Giddings, Thomas, Jr.		Olmsted, Stephen	W.H. 87
Gilman, Epaphrus	W.H. 38	Osborn, Abraham	W.H. 94
Goodsell, Samuel	E.H. 67	Olcutt, Thomas, Jr.	E.H. 256
Goodyear, Stephen	W.H. 8-10	Pardee, Eli	H.H. 156
Granger, Seth	W.H. 93	Parker, Benjamin, Sr.	E.H. 247a
Granger, Zacheus		Parker, Benjamin, Jr.	E.H. 247a

Privates

Parker, Elijah	E.H. 46	Skinner, Samuel	E.H. 15-16
Parker, Joel	E.H. 47	Smith, Dr. Asa	E.H. 176
Penfield, Isaac	E.H. 168	Smith, Martin	E.H.G. 13
Perkins, Eliphas	E.H. 182c	Spencer, Daniel	
Perkins, Jason	E.H. 86a	Spencer, Samuel	E.H. 55
Perkins, Jesse	E.H. 82a-186a	Stephens, Preeda	
Perkins, Phineas, Jr.		Strong, Eli	W.H. 217
Perkins, Phineas, Sr.	E.H. 84-180a	Taylor, Childs	E.H. 68-W.H. 60
Phelps, Charles	E.H. 66	Taylor, Prince	W.H. 60
Porter, Justus	E.H. 174	Tiffany, Timothy	W.H. 20
Porter, Thomas	E.H. 174	Treat, George	W.H. 40
Post, Ebenezer	E.H. 182	Treat, John	W.H. 43
Pratt, Nathaniel	E.H. 82	Warner, Aaron	E.H. 110
Reed, Benjamin	E.H. 93	Waters, Abner, Jr.	E.H. 84a
Reed, Elijah	E.H. 93	Waters, John	
Rexford, William	W.H. 12-45	Weir, Samuel	
Rice, Jonathan	W.H. 16	Wilder, Ephriam	W.H. 12-45
Roberts, Seth	E.H. 134	Wilder, Gamaliel	W.H. 21-139
Pratt, Phineas		Wilder, John	W.H. 13
Robinson, John	W.H. 82	Wilder, Jonathan	W.H. 12-13-21
Rood, David		Wilder, Moses	
Ruby, Thomas	W.H. 22	Wilder, Thomas	W.H. 14-21
Sanders, David	E.H. 92	Wilson, John	W.H. 108
Sawyer, Asa	E.H. 165	Woodbridge, David	W.H. 48
Sawyer, Jacob	E.H. 165	Woodbridge, Rev. Samuel	
Sawyer, Samuel	H.H. 165	Woodruff, Joseph	E.H. 121
Scovel, Michael	E.H. 97	Wooster, Moses	
Seward, Daniel	W.H. 91	Wright, Ephriam	E.H. 145a
Sheldon, Remembrance	E.H. 177	Wright, William	E.H. 145a
Shephard, George	W.H. 72	Wright, Beriah	E.H. 145a
Shephard, Daniel	W.H. 72	Wright, Ezekiel	E.H. 11
Shipman, Samuel	E.H. 91	Zenas, Bruce	
Selvee, William			

Since the above list was compiled, three Hartland men have been added. Probably more will be found later. Their names are as follows:

Baxter, William	E.H. 31A
Griswold, Caleb	
Ruick, Owen	E.H. 92-186A

The total of Hartland men known to have served in the Revolution-War has now reached the figure of 359.

THE FOLLOWING HARTLAND MEN FOUGHT IN THE
WAR OF 1812

Adams, George	E.H. 182	Burnham, Isaac	E.H. 80
Andrews, Nehemiah	E.H. 24	Burnham, Thomas	E.H. 157
Banning, Benjamin		Bushnell, Abner	E.H. 21
*Banning, Calvin	E.H. 134	Bushnell, Jedediah	W.H. 169
Bates, John, Jr.	E.H. 176	Bushnell, Martin	W.H. 65
Beach, Calvin	W.H. 134	Bushnell, Stephen	E.H. 165
Beach, Charles	W.H. 134	Clark, Chauncey	E.H. 96
Beach, Elias	W.H. 134	Clark, Nathaniel	E.H. 103
Beach, Elihu	W.H. 134	Church, David	E.H. 122
Belden, Ebenezer	W.H. 130	Church, Jonathan	E.H. 122

Church, Robert	E.H. 122	*Hayes, Gaylord	E.H. 40a
Church, Uriah	E.H. 85	Hoadley, Ebenezer	E.H. 28
*Cowles, Elisha	E.H. 132	*Hosmer, Collins	E.H. 90
Daniels, David	E.H. 108	Jones, Daniel	E.H. 106
Ensign, Moses, Jr.		Jones, Elam	
Fox, Samuel, Jr.		Jones, Sylvester	E.H. 108-126
*Fuller, Henry	E.H. 48	King, Stephen	E.H. 94
Fuller, William	E.H. 13	Latham, Chester	E.H. 12
Gates, John	E.H. 3	Latham, David	E.H.G. 5
Gates, Braziliel	W.H. 21	Loomis, Chauncy	Over B. Line
*Gates, Samuel	E.H. 5	*Loomis, Luke	
Gates, Uriah	E.H. 6	*Meacham, Dennis	E.H. 86
Giddings, Orris	E.H. 52	*Moses, Martin	E.H. 57
Giddings, Erastus	E.H. 27	*Olmstead, Timothy	W.H. 21
	W.H. 168	Perkins, Eliphat	E.H. 84-18
Giddings, Loraine	E.H. 185	Perkins, Elisha	E.H. 84-18
	H.H. 69	Perkins, Phineas	E.H. 84
Gilbert, Jonathan	W.H. 28	Wright, Bildad	W.H. 152
Hayden, Nathaniel	W.H. 66	Wright, Henry	W.H. 152
*Hayes, Ezekiel	B. 222		

*Names marked with a star fought in both the War of 1812 and the War of the American Revolution.

CIVIL WAR

In 1860 the population of Hartland had dropped to 846 — a loss of 472 from the high of 1318 in 1800. The Civil War did not find as great a response as that of earlier days. Some inducement had to be offered, and at a Special Town Meeting held on July 23rd, 1862, it was voted: "That the Town pay \$100.00 to each volunteer from this Town immediately after he shall have been accepted and sworn into the United States service to fill the quota from the town, of the 300,000 men called by the President."

Eventually, 49 men answered the call.

THE FOLLOWING HARTLAND MEN FOUGHT IN THE CIVIL WAR

Alford, Samuel	E.H. 33	Coe, Leverett H.	W.H. 83
Banning, Alman C.	E.H. 135	Coe, Nathan	W.H. 83
Banning, Elbert J.	E.H. 67	Cook, Sylvester T.	E.H. 63
Banning, John F.	E.H. 140	Couch, George	E.H. 144
Banning, Richmond H.	E.H. 134	Cowdrey, Junis H.	E.H. 117
Barnes, Ham A.	E.H. 137	Cowdrey, Theron L.	E.H. 19
Braman, Leonard		Emmons, Casseus	E.H. 103
Bunnell, Solomon J.	E.H.G. 1	Emmons, Henry N.	E.H. 221
Carrier, Miletus	E.H. 219	Emmons, James C.	E.H. 63
Carrier, Samuel	E.H. 218	Emmons, Leverett	E.H. 103
Clark, Chauncey		Farley, Patrick	W.H. 201
Clark, Franklin	E.H. 64	Gates, Henry J.	E.H. 1
Clark, George H.	E.H. 114	*Gibbs, Samuel	W.H. 83
Clark, Marcellus	E.H. 152	Gower, Edwin J.	E.H. 48
Clark, Miles C.	E.H. 156	Gower, James E.	E.H. 48
Clark, William W.	E.H. 64	Hyer, Elizer	E.H. 57
Coe, DeWitt C.	E.H. 137	Jones, Alazno S.	E.H. 123

Lawton, Samuel	E.H. 26	Simmons, John F.	W.H. 201
Loomis, George M.	E.H. 234	Squire, Hiram	W.H. 35
Loomis, Henry M.	E.H. 234	Thompson, Francis	E.H. 160
Moore, Andrew N.	E.H. 32	Tillotson, LaFayette	E.H. 181
Moore, Richard	E.H. 55	Twining, Charles E.	E.H. 164
O'Neal, John	E.H. 93	Viets, Charles W.	E.H. 2
Roberts, John O.	E.H. 93	Warner, Hiram L.	E.H. 113
Rowe, Rodolphus D.	E.H. 29		

*"Killed at Cold Harbor, Va. June 1, 1864 and there buried." (From monument in West Hartland Cemetery.)

THE FOLLOWING HARTLAND MEN SERVED IN WORLD WAR I

(List compiled from names listed in Vol. 2 Service Records of
Connecticut, Page 1217)

Gorse, Harry J. Jr.	E.H. 139	Ransom, Stanley A.	W.H.
McLean, Roderick, Jr.	H.H. 168	Schwaller, Fred A.	E.H. 33
Nelson, Carl O., Jr.	W.H. 30	Wallace, William James	
Ransom, Charles M.	E.H. 81	Wright, F. Cossitte	E.H. 7

The following additional names appear on list compiled by David N. Gaines, as printed in program of Bunker Hill Day Celebration of June 17, 1930:

Frazier, Everett	H.H. 183	Hopkins, Charles E.	W.H.
Hayes, Lewis	E.H.G. 12	Stratton, Irving	H.H. 171

THE FOLLOWING HARTLAND MEN SERVED IN WORLD WAR II — 1941 to 1945

(List compiled from names appearing on Honor Roll
located in Hartland's Town Halls.)

Anstett, Richard P.	*Emerick, Kenneth J.
Barber, John R.	Goetz, George, Jr.
Bayard, Lloyd	Gower, George W.
Berg, Arthur C.	Gundersen, Jacob, Jr.
Bettinger, Fred A.	Hayes, Russell E.
Brady, Bernard	Kelley, Harold M.
Brunjes, Robert	Kittleson, Christian
Cole, Herbert L.	Larsen, Olaf
Cole, Walter E.	Law, Robert R.
Crain, Maurice	Parmelee, Elliot L.
Crunden, Clayton E.	Pasquariello, Anthony
Dalene, Henry A.	Pedersen, Peder T.
Delton, John, Jr.	Pedersen, Robert N.
Delton, Walter	Ransom, Donald
Derose, Frank	Ransom, Ernest H.
Derose, Louis, Jr.	Ransom, Gordon D.
*Derose, William	Ransom, Lawrence E.
*Elson, Albert G.	Ransom, Leonard B.
Emerick, Charles L.	Ransom, Stanley A., Jr.

Rosati, Maurice
Skaret, Oscar
Skaret, Stanley L.
Stipek, Rev. Charles W.
Sturman, Martin E.

Thomas, Russell
Tuffy, John W.
Williams, Milton C.
Wright, Frederick C.
Wright, Gordon C.

*Deceased while in the service of their country.

During World War II both men and women played an active and important part in the Civil Defense program. A system of Air Raid Warning Signals was established and functioned throughout the conflict.

In addition, an Observation Post for spotting aeroplanes was set up in West Hartland. The building was located on the site of the old "Town Pound" and was manned on a 24-hour schedule by local men and women. The material and work used in construction was obtained from "scrap drives" and volunteer labor.

Later, a similar Post was set up in East Hartland, being located on the roof of the Town Garage. This was maintained on the same basis with both men and women of East Hartland contributing their voluntary services over a long period.

The introduction of Radar Systems made the work of the Posts obsolete and they were discontinued.

A Civil Defense program has been inaugurated and still functions under the direction of the Selectmen, with Warren Pinter as Co-ordinator and Stanley A. Ransom as assistant.

MEMORIALS

Memorials for Hartland's Soldiers and War dead are not too numerous. A tree for every Hartland soldier serving in the Revolutionary War was planted in a field adjacent to the East Hartland Cemetery, and is now a young forest.

A flag-pole with field-stone base was erected in West Hartland on the grounds of the Second Congregational Church, with bronze plaque:

"In memory of Sgt. Albert Elson who was killed on Okinawa."

The money was obtained from subscriptions of West Hartland residents, and from friends and associates at the Wm. L. Gilbert Clock Company in Winsted.

Bronze plaques in the form of an "Honor Roll" containing the names of those from Hartland who served in World War II have been placed in the Town Hall Auditoriums of both East and West Hartland. These were erected by vote and authorization of the entire Town of Hartland as an expression to honor those who served their country during this period.

There are many more, however, who still lie—

"Under the sod and the dew, Waiting the Judgment Day,"
who await their turn to be signally honored.

CHAPTER XI

Reservoirs, Fields and Forests

A HISTORY OF THE WATER BUREAU OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF HARTFORD, CONN. AND ITS ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE TOWN OF HARTLAND

(By Stanley A. Ransom)

After a period of over two hundred years much of the land contained in the Town of Hartland originally given to the tax-payers of Hartford, whose names appeared on Hartford's tax list of 1720, was to return indirectly to them in a form and manner undreamed of through the two centuries which had elapsed since their first ownership.

That section of Hartland comprising a deep valley lying between the East and the West Mountains had over the years become generally known as "Hartland Hollow". Because of the alluvial soil deposits which had accumulated for centuries along the East Branch of the Farmington, it had become an area of fertile farms whose occupants, for the most part, had lived in their ancestral homes and tilled the land for generations.

On the northern boundary of this section next to the Massachusetts line were located the earliest saw and grist mills because of the natural water power sites. Two centuries of incessant toil had brought the land in this valley to a high state of fertility, and tobacco, potatoes and corn were raised in abundance. Herds of the dairy farmers grazed in the peaceful pastures. Never thickly populated and having no church or social center, the inhabitants joined in the community life of the East or West village according to personal choice. Nevertheless, two district schools were maintained for many years, known as the North Hollow and the South Hollow Districts. Also, a post office was located in the North Hollow section. Hartland Hollow was also the site of the local government, as the Town Hall was located in this area because of its being in the geographical center of the town.

The need for an additional water supply by Hartford and the towns which later joined in the formation of the Metropolitan District was first voiced in the mid 1920's. Even before the necessary legislation was introduced, land purchases were made in the neighboring town of Barkhamsted on a limited scale, and it was not until 1929 that a bill for con-



—Courtesy Metropolitan District Commission

The Hogback Pool on the West Branch of the Farmington. Bridge erected in 1955 by Metropolitan District Commission. No bridge before that date.

struction of a dam and reservoir in Barkhamsted was introduced in the 1929 General Assembly. The legislation was opposed by both Barkhamsted and Hartland and became the subject of much public controversy. The bill failed of passage at that time. The "handwriting on the wall" however had become clear to the citizens of Hartland and Barkhamsted.

In the meantime some of the more anxious land owners continued to sell substantial acreage in both towns so that by 1931 the Metropolitan District was in a much better position, both in Barkhamsted and Hartland, to gain support for the proposed dam and reservoir. New legislation containing many compromises and revisions from the original plan was introduced in the 1931 session of the General Assembly, and after much public controversy as well as heated debates among the residents and representatives of the towns affected, Bill No. 505 of the Special Acts of 1931, known as the East Branch Water Supply Act was passed and made a law on May 14, 1931.

The passage of this legislation gave the Metropolitan District the authority to proceed with the construction of the Barkhamsted Reservoir and the Saville Dam, and acquisition of additional land in Hartland by the Metropolitan District began in earnest. It was by this act that the doom of Hartland Hollow was forever sealed so far as the foreseeable future is concerned. The ultimate result was the town being split into two separate communities having a reservoir occupying the entire breadth of the town and lying between the two sections called the East and the West Mountains.



—Courtesy Byron C. Stratton

Home of Azariah Stebbins in Hartland Hollow. Later the home of Byron and Dorothy Stratton

The effect of removing such a large area from habitation was a blow from which the town of Hartland has never fully recovered and has served in some measure to promote the traditional rivalry between the two remaining communities.

When it became known for a certainty that Hartland Hollow and much of the area comprising the West Mountain was to be eventually acquired by the Metropolitan District for reservoir and water shed purposes, there were feelings of mixed emotions on the part of those inhabitants directly affected. Some congratulated themselves on their good fortune in having their land acquired at above the average market price, while others, whose roots ran deep in Hartland soil, were reluctant to relinquish their ancestral acreage. It was only a matter of a few years, however, before most of them had become reconciled to their fate, had disposed of their property and migrated to nearby towns.

The following is a list of some of the larger land purchases made by the Metropolitan District in the Hartland Hollow and West Mountain sections for Reservoir and Water Shed purposes:

	Acres		Acres
1. Isabel C. Emerick	53	15. Clifford Cable	140
2. Joanna D. Carrier	60	16. Byron C. Stratton	344
3. Amos R. Holcomb	55	17. Arthur H. Miller	137
4. Waldo Miller	220	18. Talcott T. Banning	160
5. Wilbur S. Miller	256	19. Augustus Feley	345
6. J. Alfred Cables	205	20. Ford Bros.	167
7. G. H. Elton	187	21. Elnora Snow	238
8. Achille Fornatoro	242	22. John Foster, et ux	251
9. Amy and Edith Miller	128	23. Newgate Coon Club	89
10. Anna Schramm	80	24. Theodore N. Irwin	68
11. F. D. Stevens, et ux	95	25. Est. Mary Talcott	87
12. Florence N. Irwin	226	26. John Nelson	69
13. E. A. Gaylord	139	27. Mary French	50
14. L. M. Dickinson	208	28. Anna Henderson	55

The decade 1930-1940 marked the end of Hartland Hollow as a place of habitation for the living and the dead. The Town Hall, the two school-houses, and the roads and bridges were sold to the Metropolitan District by the Town of Hartland, and one by one the farms were acquired, the houses razed, and the occupants departed, "nor failed to cast one longing, lingering look behind." The Hartland Hollow Cemetery was moved to a new location adjoining the one in West Hartland, and by special request some of the graves to East Hartland and other places.

Popular sentiment rose to the occasion and became the subject of the muse in high and low places. Odell Shepard in his book, *Connecticut Past and Present*, has the following lines entitled "*Lament for Hartland:*"

"Nine miles there were of still and breathing beauty,
Of wedded wood and meadow stretching down
From Massachusetts into Satan's Kingdom.
Two hundred years of toil had made them human;
A thousand toilsome lives had made them fair;

"The fields were cleared, the granite walls were builded,
 And underneath the soil their hands had labored
 The little helpless groups of toilers slept . . .
 Still may they slumber, and never know till Doomsday
 That we have sunk their homes ten fathom deep;
 But if the dead arise, grant, Lord, I may be present
 When those who made that vale meet those who slew!"*



—Courtesy Alice Cables Calabrese

*View from Lookout on West Mountain Road showing flooded section
 of North Hartland Hollow*

While under date of August 28, 1932 there appeared in the *Hartford Courant* the following poem written by an unknown who used the nom-de-plume "Full Fathom Five":

"No more will Hartland farms be spread
 By many a dusty, winding road,
 Or know the eager homing tread
 Of sons they reared to serve abroad.

"Tho' Nature's floods were always kind
 To homes along the Farmington
 The meddler, Man, now bends his mind
 To drown the valley, waste the town.

"So close the church, dismiss the school
 And seek us distant homes and strange;
 No more we'll meet to vote and rule
 The town or go to monthly Grange.

"For deep across the Hollow soon
 Will rise the prisoned water's gleam,
 That Hartford's streets may claim the boon
 Of Hartland's one-time crystal stream.

“And few will know, or few will care
That Hartland homes are stricken down,
For this is but a small affair, —
The drowning of a little town.”

Hartland gradually became adjusted to the new situation and to derive some indirect benefits from it. The 19½ miles of highway abandoned on the East Branch was replaced by 11½ miles of new highway at a cost of nearly one-half million dollars. The land acquired by the Metropolitan District was subject to higher assessment and a corresponding increase in tax revenue. Although the distance from West to East Hartland was increased by some four miles, the scenic drive along the picturesque reservoir and the improved grades of the new road compensated to a great extent for the increased mileage.

The acquisition by the Metropolitan District Commission of so much acreage on the West Mountain for watershed purposes, however, eliminated once and for all any possibility of a potential development of this land for building purposes.

Hartland had hardly become accustomed to its central reservoir and divided communities when once again the Metropolitan District Commission made demands upon the sparkling waters of the West Branch of the Farmington as it pursued its rapid course through the southwest corner of the town.

The necessity for this additional request and its subsequent approval is explained by the Metropolitan District as follows:

“In the World War II years and those that followed, the District’s water demands were even more greatly accelerated under the impetus of a tremendous industrial boom. The District sought approval for its plans to impound the floodwaters of the West Branch of the Farmington River and carry the water through a tunnel to Barkhamsted Reservoir.

“History repeated itself. Again there were sharp public debates about the necessity or wisdom of tapping new sources of water supply. A bill authorizing the creation of ‘Hogback’ Dam and Reservoir found its way before the 1945 General Assembly. The name ‘Hogback’—at one time called ‘Hogsback’—arose from the peculiar terrain of the countryside where the projected damsite and reservoir in the towns of Hartland and Colebrook were to be located. The 1945 General Assembly turned down the bill.

“The Hogback proposal came up again before the 1947 General Assembly and again the bill was defeated. During the next several months the District and the bill’s opponents reached a compromise over certain controversial points. As a result the 1949 Assembly passed a bill authorizing construction of the Hogback project.”

Based on the original proposal the “Hogback” project would have necessitated the acquisition of the entire western part of the town including control of Hartland Pond and its drainage area. The contemplation of such an additional catastrophe brought dismay and despair to an already unhappy citizenry. The adjoining town of Colebrook, however, was the one to eventually suffer the severest blow from this new development.

One of the compromises agreed upon was that the Dean (sometimes called the Thorne) Brook which carries the overflow of Hartland Pond was to be diverted so that it would enter the river below the site of the proposed dam, thus eliminating any possibility of contamination, should the water in the proposed reservoir eventually be used for drinking purposes. This provision made it no longer necessary for the Metropolitan District to acquire this water shed area, and the entire project became more palatable to the residents of Hartland. Also, in view of this change it was necessary for the Metropolitan District to purchase only 600 acres within the Town of Hartland instead of the entire Hartland Pond section, and this included the land necessary for the proposed tunnel from the Hogback Reservoir under the mountain to the Barkhamsted Reservoir on the East Branch.

Of the 104 square miles of water shed area in the Hogback Reservoir Development there are only approximately 600 acres within the Town of Hartland but the Charles A. Goodwin Dam and the tunnel from one Reservoir to the other are both located in Hartland. The Goodwin Dam has now been completed but construction of the tunnel is still in progress.

Taking into consideration the land purchased by the Metropolitan District within the Town of Hartland for both the Hartland Hollow and Hogsback developments, the total acreage acquired amounts to more than 5,000 acres for which they have expended slightly more than \$400,000, or a rough average of \$80. per acre. At the present time the Metropolitan District owns more than 20% of the acreage contained in the entire town, and since 1930 they have paid in property taxes to the Town of Hartland more than \$250,000.

The name "Hogsback" which later became shortened to "Hogback" and the section immediately surrounding this area is worthy of a more detailed description. The name originated because of a steep hill in the road leading from Colebrook River to Riverton, as it wound along the East Bank of the West Branch of the Farmington River. A ledge of rock in the river extended eastward some 150 feet, and the road passed over the top of a hill with a steep ascent on one side and an equally steep descent on the other, the sides and the top forming an arc similar to a half-circle. This section of the road became known as the "Hogback" from the time this section was first settled.

This was one of the most picturesque and scenic spots along the West Branch. In the early days the old road was a much traveled thoroughfare, it being one of the Stagecoach routes from Hartford to Pittsfield and Albany. Immediately north of the Hogback was a stretch of comparatively level land which was early developed into one of the few farms along this road between Hitchcockville and Colebrook River. No bridge ever spanned the stream at this point but there was a ford across the river used, except at flood stage, to connect the road from Hartland to the one emerging at the top of Eno Hill in Robertsville.

Jonathan Bates built his homestead on the West Side of the river in 1780, and his sons, John and David, continued to occupy the place until around 1860 when it became the property of Harlow Dean. On the

East Side of the River directly opposite the Bates homestead, Isaac Bushnell built a substantial farm-house and outbuildings shortly after 1800. He also operated a saw-mill at this location. The records show that he lived at this location from 1815 to 1852. In 1852 Peletiah Ransom ran a hotel here for some years, or Country Inn along the stage-coach road, and later sold to Loren DeWolfe. Both of these places were acquired shortly after by Harlow Dean and his wife, Mary (Church) Dean. From then on it became generally known and commonly called "the Dean place", while the brook originating from the overflow of Hartland Pond and entering the river at this location became commonly known as the "Dean Brook".

Harlow Dean died in 1885 and his widow in 1903. It then became the property of his sons and daughters, but the buildings were not occupied and soon fell to decay. By 1925 there was hardly a trace of the once prosperous farm, mill or other activities in operation for so many years at this location.

There is, however, an interesting side-light in connection with the Dean heirs and their Hogback holdings — one that is almost forgotten by the present generation.

Harlow and Mary Dean had two sons and four daughters. Their daughter, Mary, married Uriah Nickerson, and had a son named Edwin.

After the death of their parents in 1885 and 1903, they became the heirs and sole owners of the Hogback properties which included the site of the present Goodwin Dam.

Nature had provided the necessary qualifications to make this spot an ideal location for the construction of a dam on either a large or small scale. Rock ledges extended into the stream on either bank, and the channel between them culminated in a large deep pool—a favorite spot for trout fishing or swimming in mid-summer. The heavily wooded areas on each bank contributed to making this a scene of sylvan beauty.

In the early 1900's great interest developed among utility companies in acquiring additional water power facilities to meet the growing demand for electric power. One of these was the Winsted Gas Company, later acquired by the Connecticut Light and Power Company.

Numerous offers were made to the Dean heirs for the Hogback property, but they had by that time come to realize the potential value of the spot and refused to accept any of them. In addition, they divided their interests into shares and formed a mutual pact in which they agreed that no one would sell without consulting all of the other brothers and sisters.

Upon the death of Mary Dean Nickerson, her share came into the possession of her son, Edwin Nickerson, who lived at that time on Smith Hill in Colebrook. Impatient over the delay of his aunts and uncles in selling the Hogback property, Nickerson, without consulting the others, consummated a deal for sale to the Winsted Gas Company of a one-sixth interest, apparently accepting a deposit of \$1,000. to close the bargain.**

Although the details were never publicly revealed, the domestic scene which occurred when Nickerson informed his relatives of the action taken, must have been a violent one. Returning home the next day

after a few hours absence, Mrs. Nickerson, the wife of Edwin, found a total of \$1,000. in cash on the kitchen table with no note of explanation. Further investigation revealed that Nickerson had disappeared, taking his shotgun but no other personal belongings.

Suicide was apparent and for weeks a diligent search was conducted in an effort to discover the "corpus delicti" or some trace of the missing man. The known caves and rocky hillsides of both Hartland and Colebrook were carefully explored and large areas of thick underbrush combed foot by foot. In the forty-one years which have elapsed since his mysterious vanishment in "thin air", no trace has been found of his skeleton, gun or other evidence to indicate what may have happened to make his disappearance so absolute and complete. It still remains one of the unsolved enigmas of the Hartland Hills.

The remaining Dean heirs died, and it was their heirs who subsequently sold their holdings. All of this area has now, of course, been acquired by the Metropolitan District Commission.

At this time it would appear that the potential water sources contained in Hartland have been exploited to their fullest extent. Most of its spring-fed streams empty into the Barkhamsted or Hogback Reservoirs, and the Metropolitan District Commission is to be congratulated on the sparkling purity of its water supply system.

But there are many who, viewing the Barkhamsted reservoir from the height of the lookout on the new West Mountain Road, will still see mirrored in its silvery surface the former crops of tobacco, corn, and



—Courtesy Florence S. Ransom

Section of Spillway, Charles A. Goodwin Dam, at newly completed Hogback Reservoir

potatoes as well as the outlines of those peaceful farms nestling so snugly in that place which for a time was known as Hartland Hollow.

Still others, gazing into the dark depth of the waters, now impounded by the Charles A. Goodwin Dam, will see the shades of those industrious individuals who spent their lives amid the rugged beauty of this remote region—a region whose greatest claim to distinction is the quaint appellation given to it by some early unknown, who first described it as—

“The Hogsback”

Notes

*Used by special permission of the author, Odell Shepard.

**See Deed, dated June 3, 1920, Edwin S. Nickerson to Winsted Gas Company, 1/6 Interest. Recorded Hartland Land Records, Vol. 20, Page 131. Document Stamp \$1.00.

FIELD AND FOREST

From the days of the first settlers forest and woodland have been of great importance to the residents of Hartland. The virgin timber consisting mostly of Pine, Hemlock, Chestnut, Ash and Maple, through which the early surveyors ran their tier and division lines, was cut and used in building their early homes and farm buildings.

By 1800, the peak of Hartland's population, the primeval forests had become the victim of the hewer's axe or saw mills located on the Hubbard Brook in the Hollow and the streams of the East and West Mountains. There is ample evidence to prove that some of these trees were of large proportions. Hemlock and pine roof and floor boards in some of the older houses show random widths of from 18" to 30". In renovating the Church building of the Second Society in West Hartland in 1953, it was discovered that the sub-floor consisting of pine boards salvaged from the original building erected in 1780 were no less than 18" in width — some as much as 28".

In addition to use for building, wood was the only source of fuel for both warmth and cooking purposes. The early fireplaces consumed large quantities, and the rigorous winters made it necessary to have a supply of dry wood always available.

The advent of stoves lowered the consumption considerably—but on the hottest day of summer, it was still necessary to have a fire in the kitchen for preparation of the daily meals. Until very recent years, enormous wood-piles have been a component part of the Hartland scene for Church, School and Home life.

From the forests and woodlands came the products so necessary for existence in the early days, now all but forgotten. Josiah Bushnell had a Dish-mill located on the stream in West Hartland near the overflow of the present Howell's Pond. Here he made trenchers, bowls,

spoons, and other utensils from beech and maple — now collectors' items, but the "China" of the first inhabitants.

Without the ever-ready and abundant supply of wood, survival in the early years would have been impossible. The native ingenuity displayed in converting wood to every purpose is astounding. It supplied their needs for housing, furniture, kitchen utensils, transportation, fuel, fences and farming tools and equipment. Circular discs cut from huge logs formed the wheels of the early ox carts and the wood-shod sled and "pung" continued until the present century. Wooden stone-boats, ploughs and V-shaped drags all played their part in early farm life and even the tools of the joiner and carpenter utilized wood, only the cutting edges being made of steel.

Chestnut trees whose trunks sometimes measured four feet in diameter, grew in the uplands and pastures. The wood was more resistant to weather and rot than most, and was used in making shingles, shad-rail fences, fence posts and sills for barns and houses. When the M.D.C. removed the Hartland Hollow Cemetery to a new location in 1940, one of the graves contained the body of a "town pauper" buried in 1820. The rough chestnut coffin was in a good state of preservation after 120 years. Consultation of town records revealed that a local carpenter had been paid \$3.00 to make the box of 2" Chestnut Plank. Identification was made by the brass tacks driven in the cover spelling out in crude fashion the incumbent's name.

In later years, Chestnut was used in large quantities for telephone poles and railroad ties. Shortly after 1900, a blight struck all the Chestnut trees of Hartland and by 1920, the forests were filled with the still-standing dead skeletons of these former "Monarchs of the Forest".

Hemlock, which the early settlers found in abundance, was used in building to some extent, but the bark became more important than the wood. As soon as tanneries had been established in East and West Hartland, quantities of Hemlock bark were used to prepare the hides for the local cobblers. It was a wood which "splintered" easily and found little favor in some quarters, which may account for the following vote at the Town Meeting of November 2, 1818: "Voted that no Hemlock Plank shall ever be laid on any bridge in town." The bark, however, was still being peeled and shipped to tanneries in Winsted as late as 1905.

After 40 years of intensive labor in clearing and construction, the year 1800 found most of the land in a cleared state. The Hartland Hollow section had been entirely denuded of forest and the inhabitants were dependent on the rocky hillside on either side of the river for their future supplies of fuel and timber. The East Mountain had been divided into farm and pasture land with some wooded sections still remaining in the North and East part of the Town. After the formation of The Second Society in 1780, the development of the land on the West Mountain proceeded at a rapid rate. The Northwest section in the Hartland Pond area contained some of the better land for farm purposes and was quickly cleared and settled.

Certain woods were associated with use for special purposes: Hickory for axe-helves, ox-bows, and tool-handles; Ash for any farm imple-

ment where strength was required, and the Swamp-ash for baskets and chair seats. Each product of the forest, by trial and error on the part of the settlers found its own special niche in their estimates of values.

By 1830 the land had been cleared for farm and pasture to such an extent that deer and bear had disappeared entirely. The game found in abundance by the early inhabitants no longer had sufficient wood to offer them protection. Tradition has the last wolf shot in the year 1837, but there is no documentary evidence to support the claim. Fox, raccoon, rabbits, squirrels, and other lesser game have always remained on the native scene, but the wild turkeys soon were exterminated, leaving partridge and quail the only game-birds of the swamp and forest.

The "neat" cattle, oxen, horses and especially sheep cropped the pastures closely in summer and, once cleared, the sharp scythes of the farmers cut the rocky meadows or "mowin's" clean to the last wisp of red-top or even "pollypods". This continued for generations. Each farm, however, had its own woodland area, usually situated beyond the fields and pastures, occupying rough and rocky sections whose terrain precluded the possibility of their ever being cleared for other purposes.

With few exceptions, each farm had the traditional "Sugar-bush"—a grove of hard or "rock" maples, with a sap-house for storage of wooden sap-buckets and other equipment when not in more practical use. The first thaw, however, usually found the shack enveloped in clouds of sweet-scented steam, children scuttling here and there dumping buckets of sap in an old hogshead, and oxen standing at attention, awaiting the "gee and haw" of their master or the sharp smack of the blue-beech ox-whip on their rump.

In later years some sections developed sizeable stands of second growth timber and saw-mills were in operation at various locations. These were of the portable type and never remained for more than a year or two at one spot.

The second Exodus from Hartland farms began in 1900 and continued until 1930. From a population of 592 in 1900, exactly one-half of the inhabitants had left for greener pastures by 1930, when the census for that year showed an all-time low of 296. One after another, many of the old ancestral homes and farms on both the East and West Mountains were deserted or abandoned. Pasture land, no longer close-cropped by sheep, cattle and horses, soon grew up and blueberries flourished for a few years. Sheep, so necessary and raised in such large numbers in the early days, disappeared entirely. The fields and meadows were no longer mowed, and after a year or two became filled with young brush intermingled with juniper and white pine seedlings. These soon reached the height where it was impossible to see over them and the long vistas of fields and farms from the more elevated hill-tops were gone forever.

In the decade 1900-1910, as the natives moved away a small group of "city people" bought an old farm here and there, and after remodeling and restoring the buildings, spent most of the summer amid the restful atmosphere of the Hartland Hills. These became known as "Summer Residents". In time they became generally accepted and an important



—Courtesy Georgiana Feley Rebillard

Cattle Show, East Hartland, Connecticut, about 1908.

addition to community life. Their number was so small, however, that it could in no way compensate for the number of native born who, tired of the meager existence which had been their lot in Hartland life, now sought more rewarding experiences in other fields.

The West Mountain area suffered more from abandoned farms and departing citizens than did the East Mountain or Hartland Hollow. Hartland Hollow's turn was to come later. It was at this time (1910) that West Hartland received the blow which left it off balance, and from which it has never fully recovered.

Shortly after 1910, Thomas A. Howell, an official of a large Sugar Company and a millionaire, purchased from Dr. James Baldwin the large brick house on the south side of Hartland Pond. Using this as his headquarters or Club House, he began acquiring all the farms which had been abandoned, as well as those whose occupants still remained, until he had accumulated the entire northwestern part of West Hartland and equal acreage in southern Massachusetts as well. The area was to be developed as a private preserve for hunting and fishing. Consequently the old houses and farm buildings soon fell to decay. Of the 28 farms which were located in this section over the years, the houses of five were retained and still remain. Those, for present identification purposes, are the ones now occupied and owned by Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Charles W. Stipek and Nelda Stipek; Mrs. Mary Vrijmoet; Mrs. Anita Holt; Dr. Helen Watts; and the family of the late Colonel Marteney. The large brick club-house subsequently burned and was replaced by a caretaker's cottage.

The Howell operation continued into the 1920's, and the open fields and pastures grew into brush and finally woodland. Some of the older roads were abandoned to the new wilderness, and the village on the

West Mountain never regained sufficient population to offset the loss. It became a miniature community of widely separated homes and a few isolated farms.

The East Mountain had similar developments, but on a much smaller scale. The "Lost Acres" of Horace B. Clark may be mentioned as an example. The Hartford Girl Scout organization also purchased large tracts and established camping areas, preventing the possibility of future residential development in that vicinity.

STATE PARK AND FOREST

Even before the Water Bureau of the Metropolitan District Commission had indicated its designs on Hartland Hollow, the State Park and Forest Commission had acquired sizeable areas of Hartland acreage for forest and recreational use. In 1921 the State Park and Forest Commission was by legislative act empowered to acquire land for public owner-



—Courtesy Lewis S. Mills

Typical of the abandoned homestead of the early 1900's. This house located in South Hartland Hollow may have been the boyhood home of Asher Benjamin.

ship. The first land purchased in Hartland was in July 1923 when James B. Hall, Administrator of the Estate of A. J. Hall, sold the "Morrison Hill" area consisting of 428 acres. This was the beginning of "The Tunxis Forest" which lies largely in Hartland, small portions, however, extending into Barkhamsted and Colebrook. The Forest was named for the Tunxis Indians, a tribe which inhabited the towns of Farmington and Simsbury, with hunting and fishing grounds along the upper reaches of the Farmington River and its branches which they had named "Tunxis".

The abandoned farms on the East Mountain were quickly acquired and added to the State's holdings. Mr. W. F. Schreeder, State Forester, in a report dated March 17, 1954, states:

"The interest which Mr. David Gaines took in this Forest was rather unusual. He had been Town Clerk and Postmaster in East Hartland for many years, knew which parcels of land were for sale, the value of each, and approximately where they were located. He knew much of the history of each piece of land and of each land-owner. Through his efforts much of the land was acquired and located.

"On bad fire days he would climb the town's church spire and scan the countryside for any indications of forest fires. On the other side of the valley, north of West Hartland, the State has maintained a lookout tower since 1934."

The depression of the 1930's provided the opportunity for development of the forests and recreational areas on a large scale, and again we quote from Mr. Schreeder's report:

"The Saville Dam, which flooded the valley between East and West Hartland, made the area more picturesque than ever and resulted in the relocation of the road between the two villages. The new road, located along the slope of both sides of the valley, circled the upper end of the man-made lake and greatly increased scenic properties of the Forest for the motoring public.

"Other scenic spots in the Forest are the beautiful Falls Brook, and the two ponds in the western part of the town frequented by fishermen.

"Although this Forest has many recreational attractions—fishing, hiking, blueberry picking, and skiing, it is also a Forest which is rapidly coming into productivity. The hardwood stands have a good representation of hemlock growing in them and this composition, which existed when the Whites first settled the town, is considered the best possible combination of species.

"In spite of the ice breakage which has damaged the Forest on several occasions, this Forest is improving in quality and unless set back severely by some catastrophe, it will be an excellent forest before many years.

"During the time of the C.C.C., Camp Robinson was located about one mile north of East Hartland village and most of the development work which was done on the Forest was accomplished by the boys from this camp:

- "(1) 11.9 miles of vehicle roads were built.
- 3.3 miles of products roads were built.

- (2) The dam on the Emmons Pond was repaired.
- (3) The entire area was worked over silviculturally.
- (4) 713 acres were planted with conifers.
- (5) For several years a small picnic area had been maintained at Bragg Pond, but the dam went out in the flood of 1938 and was not rebuilt, due to the Metropolitan Water Board Reservoir into which the outlet to Bragg Pond emptied."

During the past two decades the State Park and Forest Commission has purchased large tracts in the North and Northwestern part of Hartland, including practically all of that contained in the previous Howell tract. Two Ponds are located in the area: No. 1, Howell's Pond, named after the man who originally converted the section into a private preserve—is a favorite spot for trout fishermen; No. 2, Tunxis Pond, named after the Indians who frequented this area—is now dry and awaits the rebuilding of the dam which gave way in the Flood of 1955.

On Hartland's Tax List of 1960, the State Park and Forest Commission shows a total of 7,550 acres in the Town of Hartland, for a value of \$298,738. The Metropolitan District Commission lists 5,137 acres for a value of \$989,550. Combining these two for a total of 12,687 acres represents slightly more than 56% of the entire acreage comprising the Town of Hartland, which, according to the Connecticut State Manual, is 22,300 acres. The nature of present ownership precludes the possibility of so much as a building lot being acquired by an individual for residential purposes.

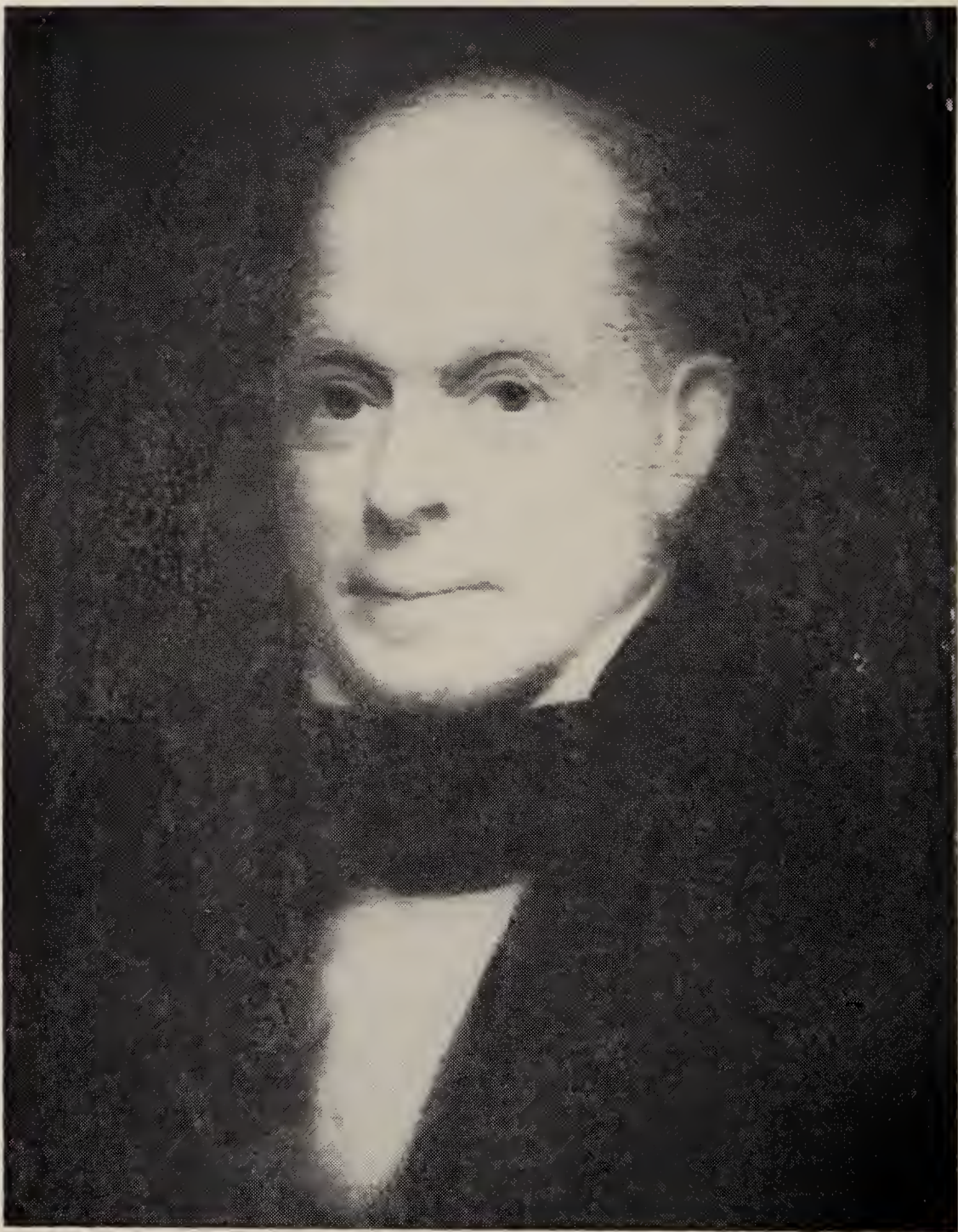
After 200 years much of Hartland is slowly returning to forest and wilderness. The cleared fields have, for the most part, been filled with pines and spruce. Deer returned to their native habitat shortly after 1900, and bear are reported to be seen occasionally. The monumental stone walls still bisecting the woodland areas, are about the only reminders left of those generations who brought the rugged terrain to fruition. They reaped the reward of their intensive labor for a few generations. Now, all those who have such easy access to the scene of their labors marvel that so many found so much content amid the toil and hardships which they accepted and considered—"Their lot in Life".

CHAPTER XII

Biographical Vignettes

ASHER BENJAMIN

The name, Asher Benjamin, may mean little to those who are unacquainted with the history of early American Architecture and the development of the building profession as it expanded in the Colonial period.



Asher Benjamin

—Courtesy Florence T. Howe

His fame evolves from the fact that he is the author of the first book published in America devoted to the subject of building and architecture. This book, entitled "The Country Builder's Assistant", published in Greenfield, Massachusetts in 1797, became the "Builder's Bible" of the day. (The writer has in his possession a copy of Asher Benjamin's book, entitled "The Practical House Carpenter"; the title page states that it is "published in Boston by the author, R.P. and C. Williams and Anni & Smith, 1830", the author being "Asher Benjamin, Architect". It also states that he is the author of "The American Builder's Companion" and "The Rudiments of Architecture".)

His reputation as an architect and an author of note on architectural subjects is secure. The extent of his activities was great and comprised such notable examples as: The stairway of the Old State House in Hartford; the Academy at Deerfield, Massachusetts; a number of Beacon Hill houses in Boston; Center Church, New Haven; the Meeting House in Windsor, Vermont; the Coleman-Hollister house in Greenfield, Massachusetts; Alexander house in Springfield, Massachusetts, and many other similar examples in New England and elsewhere.

Asher Benjamin II was born in Hartland, Connecticut, in 1773, (the exact date being unknown), the son of Asher Benjamin I and Elizabeth — — — Benjamin. For some years Samuel Benjamin, grandfather of Asher II, had been settled in Granville, Massachusetts, just over the state line from what later became North Hartland Hollow. When the first division of Hartland was made, the 49th Lot became the property of Thomas Olcott, and this section was devoted to a combination of farm and mill-sites, it being directly south and adjoining the Granville property of Samuel Benjamin. Samuel Benjamin bought the Hartland property from Thomas Olcott and built a house on it which became known as the Benjamin Farm. Asher Benjamin I was living on the Hartland Farm and also working in the mill at various times when Asher II was born. There seems to be no deed on record of where Samuel Benjamin transferred this property to his son, Asher I, but on the grand levy of Hartland for the year of 1774, Asher Benjamin is assessed at £21, and for the year 1775, his assessment was £23, 6-d, indicating that the property must have been in his name (Key HH-159). He is also listed as being one of the Hartland men participating in the Revolutionary War. Asher Benjamin I died January 2, 1777, aged 25, leaving his wife, Elizabeth, and three young children, George, Asher, and Lois. (While the documentation is incomplete, there is little doubt that Asher Benjamin II was born in Hartland, Connecticut.)

Elizabeth, widow of Asher I, subsequently married Elishama Porter who lived in South Hartland Hollow (Key HH-220 approx.). He was originally a member of the First Society in East Hartland, but when the Second Society was formed on the West Mountain in 1780, he was one of the original subscribers to the "Covenant and Confession of Faith" of the Second Society. On page 47 of the Second Society's Record Book, under the heading of "Baptisms", is the following entry: "July 4th, 1784,—George, Asher and Lois, children of the wife of

Elishama Porter by former husband", which indicates that Asher II was approximately eleven years old at the time.

The Probate Records (District of Simsbury) show that Elishama Porter was officially appointed guardian of Asher Benjamin II on August 15, 1791, stating Asher's age as "a minor of about seventeen years". It would appear that Asher was still living with his step-father at that time.

His formal education must have been intensive and acquired within the next few years after 1791, for by 1800 he had already become distinguished in his chosen field.

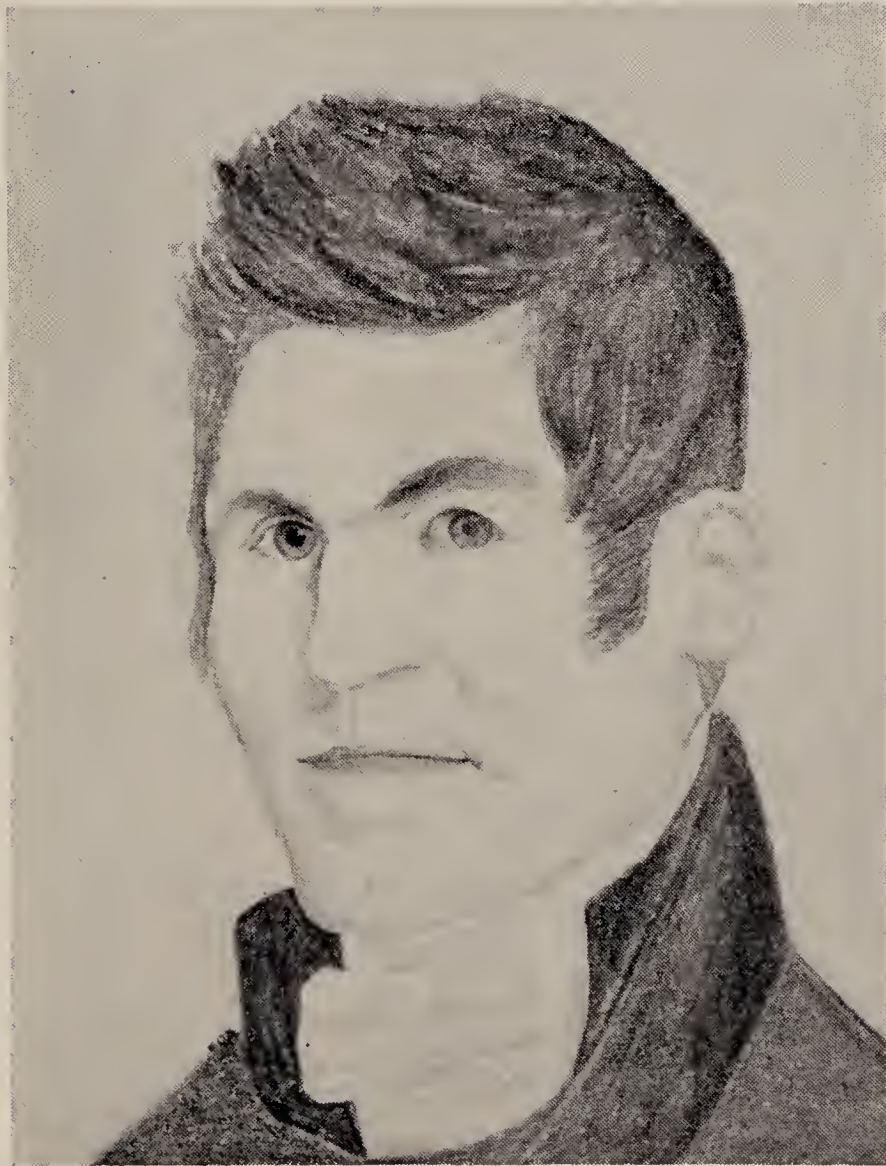
Hartland is proud to claim Asher Benjamin II as one of its native sons whose fame, as an architect and builder, rests upon the influence he brought to bear upon others in his profession in developing the late Colonial style of architecture.

SALMON BENJAMIN GIDDINGS

Salmon Benjamin Giddings, pioneer missionary of the State of Connecticut in Illinois, Missouri and the middle west. was born in Hartland March 2, 1782, the son of Benjamin and Afiah (Holcomb) Giddings. He became a member of the Congregational Church in 1807, and was early interested in the ministry. Completing his education at Williamstown, Mass., and Andover Theological Seminary, and being ordained to the Gospel Ministry in 1814, he decided to devote himself to the work of Missions in the region of St. Louis, Mo., and left Hartford at once to make his winter journey of 1200 miles on horseback through the wilderness, to arrive at St. Louis April 6, 1816, preaching all along the way. The old settlers in Ohio called him the Father of Protestantism West of the Mississippi River. He helped organize the First Presbyterian Church in St. Louis, Nov. 15th, 1817, and, during his lifetime, he helped gather a total of 17 Presbyterian Churches, which were considered children of the Connecticut Home Missionary Society, which is a Congregational institution.

In 1822, in company with Major O'Fallen, he made a tour out to the Indians beyond Council Bluffs, making rafts and swimming their horses over rivers and creeks, traveling 237 miles from Grand River to Council Bluffs in ten days. Arriving, he visited many different tribes, and advised the Government to pay them in agricultural tools and domestic animals. This was but one example of many works of perseverance and prudence in furthering the welfare of men.

After his marriage he had but 14 months more of work, but that last year was one of great activity. Though feeble and in bad health, he could not be persuaded to remit his toil. One day as he was returning from a funeral, some youngsters came running their horses by him which caused his own to throw him, bruising him severely. A short time



—Pencil Sketch by Rev. Herbert O. Kelsey

Rev. Salmon B. Giddings

*(Sketch made from full sized Oil Painting
hanging in Congregational House, Hartford)*

later pneumonia developed and ended his life in a few days. He died February 1st, 1828, at the age of 45 years. A full sized portrait in oils hangs in Congregational House in Hartford, which helps perpetuate his memory.

HARTLAND'S ONLY GHOST STORY

*Extracts from Trials, Experience, Exercises of Mind, and
First Travels of Theophilus R. Gates*

Written by himself

Printed by C. C. Adams and Company of Poughkeepsie
for the author, 1810

“My Grand Parents were natives of Lyme, Connecticut, and among the first who settled in the township of Hartland. The country was then new and uncultivated, and the inhabitants experienced many hardships,

known only to such as have formed a settlement in any new country. They were religious, and their Bible and communion with God soothed their minds in all their troubles, and supported them under the many trying scenes they were called to pass through in that then almost howling wilderness.” (Paragraph 1 Page 1)

“For having no relish for the ways of God, and taking great delight in the ways of the world, I was easily led into its vanities; it was my meat and drink to be at balls and other assemblies of young people; though it brought condemnation into my mind, and added to that load of guilt, which in my serious moments already seemed too heavy to be borne. I had been at a certain house one Sunday night with a number of my companions, where we had been more than usually rude and cheerful. When on coming away about fifteen yards from the house, I saw in appearance, a coloured man making towards me. He passed me about four feet to my left hand, directing his course towards the door, out of which I had just come. As he passed me, he did not appear to walk, for I saw no motion of his body, but he passed by me swiftly, and seemed like any thing wafted along by the air. The moon was obscured by thin clouds, but a person might be discerned almost as well as in the day time. I supposed it was a black man, though his appearance was singular as he passed by me, and there were but a few coloured people in those parts. But on asking my companions, who were all around me, if they saw the black man go towards the house, they affirmed they had seen no black man; and on going back to the house to inquire if any coloured man had been there, we found there had been none. I was then considerably alarmed. I thought it was a warning to me, to refrain from trifling company, and for some time feared to go to any balls or other assemblies of young people. But after a while it wore off, and I then went on as I had before, spending my time in vanity, neglecting my salvation, and treasuring up wrath against the day of wrath. Some, perhaps, will startle at the above account and say, “it was imagination only”. To such I would observe, if what I then saw was only the effect of imagination, I may conclude that everything I see is only the effect of imagination, since it was equally as plain to me, as the persons who were standing around me. I do not suppose it was a material being; but only a visible representation; and was probably made to me, to warn me against spending my time as I had just been spending it. I will, however, relate what I saw some few years before, what was not imagination, as I was not the only person who saw it; and may my name be forever blotted out of the book of life, if I tell an untruth, when I declare that I actually saw what is hereafter related.

One evening after it had become quite dark, while the family were sitting around the room, by a dull fire-light in perfect silence, I saw a light of the size and appearance of a candle approach near the east window. As I saw it, I cried out, saying, there is a candle, pointing to the place. One of my sisters, who sat near me with her face towards the window, as well as myself, looked and saw it also. None of the rest of the family saw it; their faces being in an opposite direction from the

window, and not regarding the place to which I pointed, they did not look soon enough. It did not reflect light into the house as would a candle; but it came close to the window, and moving back and forth twice, partly across the window, it passed away swiftly to the right hand. It was not a candle, nor a reflection from any, for there was no candle burning in the house, and as before observed, no light shone from it. A profound silence remained in the room for some time, after I related what I saw; and my parents appeared very solemn, imagining it, I suppose, ominous of the death of some one of the family. Being but young myself, such a thought never entered my mind at the time; I only wondered at so singular an appearance. One of my sisters who was then in the house, and not supposed to be very well, died in about two weeks after. I will leave the reader to judge concerning it, respecting the fact, a doubt need not be entertained.”

(Paragraph 1, Page 11 to
last paragraph on Page 13)

JONAS WILDER

Jonas Wilder may have little claim to fame but to illustrate the rugged nature of some of Hartland's early inhabitants, we are quoting an extract from the *Connecticut Courant*, which is dated at Hartland, Litchfield County, January 19, 1796:

“There is now living in this town, one Mr. Jonas Wilder, in the 97th year of his age, and is a steady, industrious man, seldom losing one day in a month by reason of infirmity and old age. He was one of the first settlers in said town, and has in this town lived near 36 years; he was then the oldest person that ever lived in said town, and still remains the oldest person by several years. He has had two wives, and both of one name, both Christian and maiden, the last of which he has lived with about 65 years; he has had 12 children and never lost one; his eldest child is now in the 73rd year of his age, the youngest in his 47th. His sons, though but seven in number, have sustained the following honorable offices, besides town and society offices, viz: One Colonel, one Major, one Captain, two Lieutenants, three Justices of the Peace, three Representatives, and three Deacons.

“His posterity was numbered in 1773, and found to be 232, of which he had lost only 16, and how many hath increased since then is not known, as two lived near Boston, two at Upper Coos, and three at Genesee.”

Jonas Wilder died about three months after the above article was published—April 15, 1796, to be exact. In the Second Society's Record Book the cause of his death is listed as *Paroletic Fit*. He is buried in the northeast corner of the West Hartland Cemetery and a large brown-stone monument marks the lot.

TIMOTHY OLMSTED

(1759-1848)

Timothy Olmsted (or Olmstead) came from East Hartford in the 1780's, and for a number of years was a resident of Hartland (Key WH-21), before leaving to pursue his musical career, which was later to make him one of the outstanding composers and musicians of the time. In 1811, he published a work of church music called the "Musical Olio" containing many original tunes. It has been said of him that he would have been the "Mozart of America" had the musical background of Connecticut reached the stage where it could be compared to that of Continental Europe. In addition to church music, he composed a number of marches and other secular music.

Even the tall chime clocks made in the shop of Daniel Burnap (1759-1838) of East Windsor played melodies such as the "Minuit by T. Olmsted".

He is listed as one of the Hartland men serving in the Revolutionary War as a musician. He was still residing in West Hartland during the War of 1812, for he was also in the service of his country during that period. He subsequently removed to Phoenix, New York, where he died in 1848.

Hartland is proud of the fact that one of its early citizens contributed in such a large way to the musical culture of his generation.

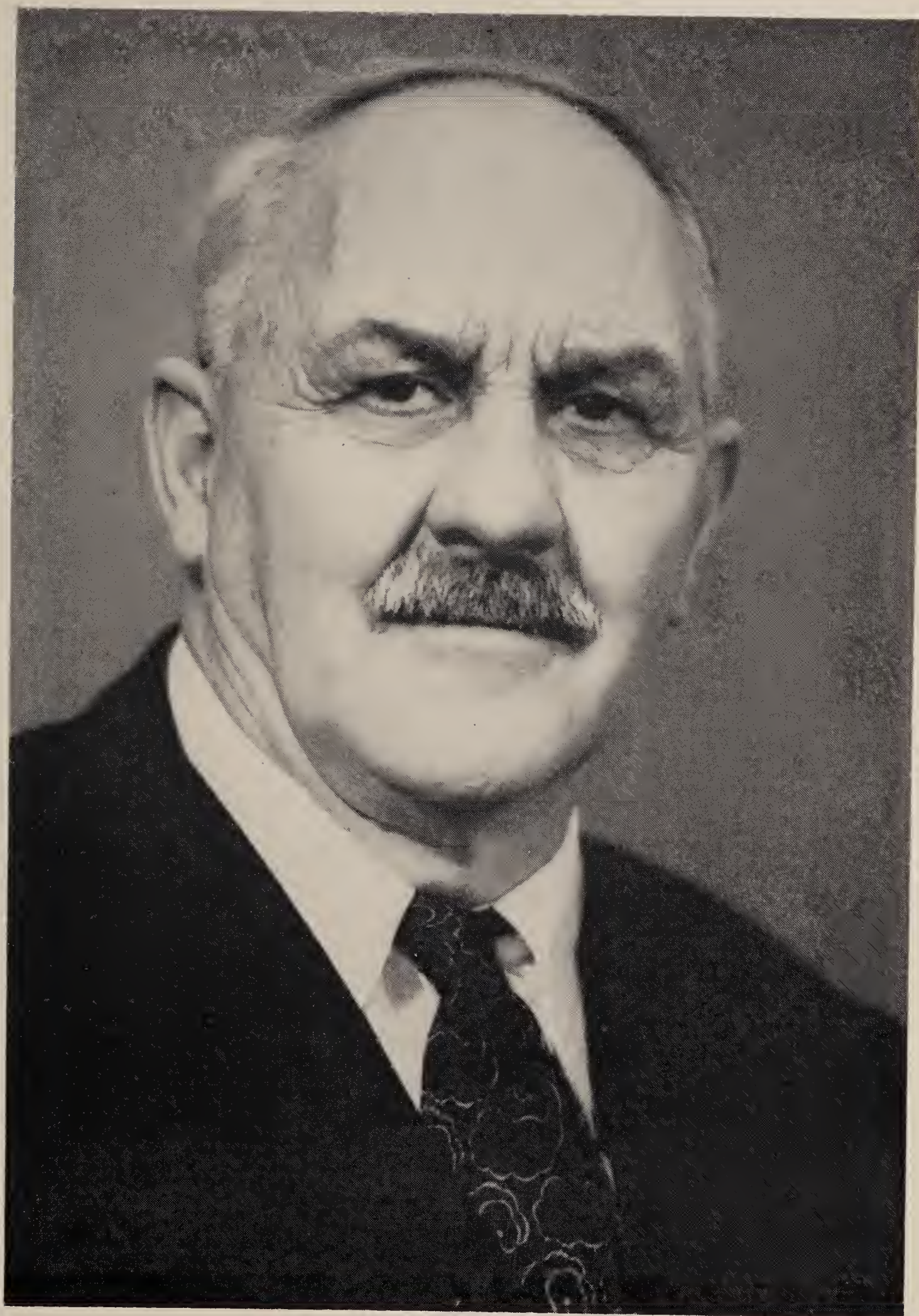
At the 175th Anniversary of the Second Ecclesiastical Society held on August 14, 1955, the music of Timothy Olmsted was one of the featured numbers on the program.

WILBUR S. MILLER

Wilbur S. Miller was born February 1, 1874 in the former Cyrus Miller Tavern in Hartland Hollow, the youngest son of Jonathan A. and Georgiana (Howd) Miller. His education was acquired in the South Hollow District School. After the death of his father in 1892 and his mother in 1893, he lived with his sister, Leslie, in the old homestead until his marriage to Edith V. Feley June 20, 1900.

In April 1901 they removed to East Granby where two sons were born, George F. Miller, born May 28, 1901, and Harold J. Miller, born August 1st, 1902. Harold died November 8, 1903. While living in East Granby, he served as Second Selectman of that town from 1902 until his return to Hartland in 1906. His return to his native town was prompted by sentiment for the place of his boyhood days and the friends and relatives which surrounded him at that location.

He purchased a farm located on the West side of the East Branch of the Farmington River in Hartland Hollow where he remained for 22 years, eventually selling his property to the Metropolitan District Commission.



—Courtesy Edith V. Miller

Wilbur S. Miller

In addition to maintaining a dairy and tobacco farm, he was actively engaged in politics from an early age. His political life began before his removal to Granby, when he was elected Town Clerk of Hartland in 1896, and continued in that office until 1901. In 1899 he was elected one of Hartland's representatives to the General Assembly and was its youngest member at that session. Upon his return to Hartland, he was elected First Selectman of the town on Oct. 7, 1907, and continued in that office for 37 years without interruption. This is a record which has never been exceeded up to this time.

In 1911 he was again elected to the General Assembly and for a number of years served as Assistant Superintendent of the Connecticut State Capitol. He was town chairman of the Republican party for a period of 40 years.

During the first years of his position as selectman, a number of the roads were improved and it was under his direction that in 1908 and 1910 both the East and West Mountain roads were graded and resurfaced. Later the Riverton Mountain Road was also improved by being graded and graveled. All of this work was accomplished with pick, shovel, ox team and horses, there being no modern machinery available at that time.

In later years, he conducted negotiations with the Metropolitan District Commission in connection with the sale of roads, bridges, school houses, and the town hall located in Hartland Hollow. The removing of the Hartland Hollow Cemetery and provision for a new location was also his responsibility, all of which were accomplished to the complete satisfaction of the town's people. His career of public service was one of the longest in the history of Hartland's Public Servants.

He was a life-long member of the Second Ecclesiastical Society and took an active part in its affairs. Mr. and Mrs. Miller celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on June 20, 1950, in the West Hartland Community House. On this occasion they were given the honorary title of "First Citizens of Hartland".

His wife, Edith V. Miller, was also active in politics being a member of the School Board for a number of years, as well as representing the town in the General Assembly in the 1930, 1932 and 1934 sessions.

Wilbur S. Miller died November 14, 1950, leaving his widow, Edith V. Miller and a son, George F. Miller. He is buried in the Miller plot in the new West Hartland Cemetery.

CARLTON E. OSBORN

Carlton E. Osborn was born in West Hartland on February 12, 1867, the son of Amos and Elizabeth (Stevens) Osborn. His early education was obtained in the Mill District School and later he attended Wilbraham Academy.



—Courtesy Marjorie Osborn Ransom

Carlton E. Osborn

His early years were spent in teaching school in the Center Hill and Center Parish West Hartland Districts after which he engaged for a short time in conducting a store in partnership with his brother, Burtis. Later he operated a farm on Williams' Hill for a few years.

He married Ida Stotts of West Hartland and two daughters were born to them, Elizabeth A. Osborn (Weeks) and Marjorie V. Osborn (Ransom). On August 14, 1900, he purchased the home, built in 1782 by Samuel Crosby, from the Rev. Hiram N. Gates, occupying it for the remainder of his life. Here he began to conduct a country store which he continued to operate for nearly forty years. In the early 1900's he maintained a stage route from West Hartland to New Hartford and was also appointed Postmaster for West Hartland.

Carl Osborn's store was one of the last of the typical country stores in this section. It became the gathering place for the men of the village

and during the long winter evenings there were many heated political discussions around the old chunk stove and proverbial cracker barrel.

A member of the Democratic Party, his political career began with his election as one of Hartland's representatives to the General Assembly in 1895. For a number of years he served as selectman and numerous other town offices. It was in 1911 that he was elected Judge of Probate for the District of Hartland continuing in that capacity until reaching retirement age in 1936. The 25 years of his tenure in this office is the longest on record in Hartland's Probate Court.

Carlton E. Osborn died December 14, 1940 and is buried in the Osborn Family Plot in the old West Hartland Cemetery.

EDWARD A. GAYLORD

Edward A. Gaylord was born in West Hartland November 21, 1855, a son of Edward A. and Fidelia (Griffin) Gaylord.

His education was obtained in the local District Schools after which he attended Wilbraham Academy for two years and was later graduated from Eastman's Business College in Poughkeepsie, New York.

Upon his return to West Hartland, he married Harriet Howd on May 15, 1881. Shortly after, he purchased the property formerly owned by Dwight Cornish and here he resided for the remainder of his life.

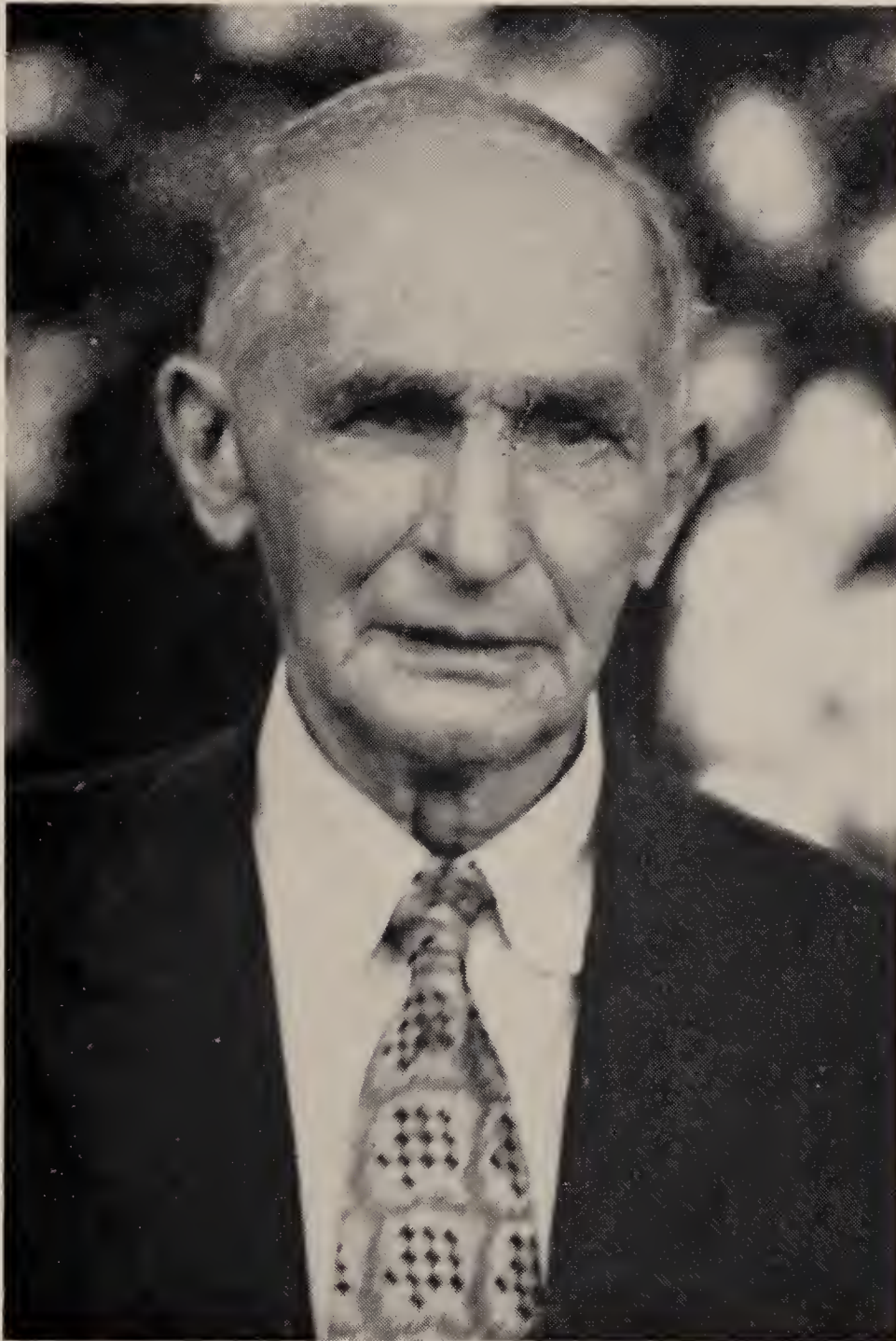
In addition to farming, he operated a stage route from West Hartland to Simsbury, making two trips each week, until the advent of the Connecticut Western Railroad to Winsted brought nearer markets.

His local political career began early and by 1911 when he was elected a representative to the General Assembly, he had held every office including that of selectman, but with the exception of Town Clerk. For five years, during the term of President Woodrow Wilson, he served as Postmaster in West Hartland. He was a Justice of the Peace and Town Health Officer for many years. The chairmanship of the Democratic Town Committee remained in his hands longer than that of any previous incumbent.

Locally, he was familiarly known as "Art" Gaylord, seldom using the name of Edward. In addition to politics, he was active in agricultural circles. Master of the West Hartland Grange for five years, he was active in promoting consolidation with Riverton, when West Hartland gave up its charter some years ago. He was also president of the Riverton Fair Association for many years and later served as a director.

At the time of his death, he was president of the West Hartland Cemetery Association and a member of the Second Ecclesiastical Committee.

His death occurred on April 30, 1945, at the age of 89. He is buried in the New Barkhamsted Cemetery.



—Courtesy Irene V. Shepard

Edward Arthur Gaylord

JAMES B. HALL

James B. Hall was born in Berwick, Nova Scotia February 14, 1880, and after receiving his education at Boston Business School, came to West Hartland in 1899, residing on Morrison Hill which was then a large farm owned by his father, Albert Hall.

On November 27, 1901, he married Grace M. Stotts, and two children were born to them, Raymond E. Hall and Mae E. Hall. About 1906 he moved to the home now owned by Kenneth and Katherine Cottle, and purchasing a steam sawmill, engaged in the lumber business. His mill was permanently located at the foot of "the ledges" on what is now the Milo Coe Road, and became a Piano Factory for a few years. Later

he removed to West Hartland Center where he resides at the present time.

His entry into politics began as soon as he became a voter in 1901. In the 60 years which have elapsed since that time, the name of James B. Hall has appeared somewhere on the list of Hartland's Town Officials. He was first elected to the General Assembly in 1907, and again in 1951, 1953, 1955 and 1957. For many years he was Secretary of the Hartland Board of Education.

During the 1930's he served as Assistant to the Forestry Officials supervising the C. C. Camps in this area.

He has always been active in the Republican Town Committee, and for the last ten years has been Treasurer of the Town of Hartland and Agent of its Town Deposit Fund, and currently serves in these capacities.

JAMES A. RANSOM

James A. Ransom was born in East Hartland on November 14, 1901. He attended the First District School in East Hartland, later learning the trade of carpenter and builder.

On August 13, 1930, he married Mary Hargraves, and they have two daughters, Anne and Leah. There are also two other daughters, Virginia and Shirley, by a former marriage.

His political career began with his appointment as Town Clerk in 1935 to fill the unexpired term of David N. Gaines. He continued in that capacity until 1949 when he was elected to the office of First Selectman to fill the unexpired term of Nathaniel Emmons. For the past eleven years he has been successively elected to that office and presently serves the town in that capacity. He has also served as treasurer of the Hartland Historical Society since its organization.

He is Chairman of the Hartland Bi-Centennial Committee.



—Franz Kraus, Clinton, Studio

James A. Ransom
First Selectman — Chairman Bi-Centennial Celebration Committee

Bi-Centennial 1761-1961

HARTLAND BI-CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION JUNE 24-25, 1961 CELEBRATION COMMITTEES

Steering Committee

Mr. James A. Ransom, Chairman	Mr. Stanley A. Ransom, Vice-Chm.
Mr. Harold K. Groth, Treasurer	Mrs. Gladwin E. Parmelee, Sec'y.
Mr. Edwin Bakken	Rev. Herbert O. Kelsey
Mr. Willy Bakken	Mrs. Harry Kraiza
Mrs. A. Lindsay Carroll	Mr. Alfred Lilliendahl
Mr. Paul Crunden	Mr. Luther B. Martin, Jr.
Mr. A. Dana Cutter	Mrs. Charles McDonough
Mrs. Thomas Dakin	Mrs. Carl Nelson
Mr. Jerome deForest	Mr. Robert Nelson
Rev. Stanley Dokken	Rev. Richard Nordgren
Mrs. Gerald Farrington	Mrs. John Salling
Mr. James B. Hall	Mrs. Louis Shepard
Mr. Russell Hayes	Mrs. Frank Siedor
Miss Carol Hurlbut	Mrs. Osmund Sindland

Reception Committee

Mr. James A. Ransom, Chairman
Mrs. Elliot Parmelee, Co-Chairman

Mr. and Mrs. James A. Ransom	Miss Amelia Pasquariello
Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Bakken	Mr. and Mrs. George Fletcher
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Crunden	Mr. and Mrs. George Jones
Mr. and Mrs. Jerome deForest	Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Stevens
Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hall	Mr. Oscar Skaret
Mr. and Mrs. Gladwin Parmelee	Mr. and Mrs. Elliot Parmelee
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley A. Ransom	Mr. and Mrs. William Schenetsky
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Samuelson	Mr. and Mrs. Frank Roarke
Mr. and Mrs. William Jones	Mr. and Mrs. Edward Flagg
Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wright	Mr. and Mrs. Louis Shepard
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Anstett	Mr. and Mrs. Luther B. Martin
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Haag	Mr. and Mrs. Harold K. Groth
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Heggland	Mr. and Mrs. Russell Hayes
Mr. and Mrs. Lew Holcombe	Mr. and Mrs. Einar Olsen

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Mueller	Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cilley
Mr. and Mrs. L. Wayne Jones	Mr. and Mrs. Arne Dalene
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Lilliendahl	Mr. and Mrs. Paul Maceyka
Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Beeman	Mr. and Mrs. Roy Fisher
Mr. and Mrs. Anton Poulsen	Mr. and Mrs. Louis Mufatti
Mr. and Mrs. Chester Yeaton	

Finance Committee

Mr. Harold K. Groth, Chairman

Mr. Jerome deForest	Mrs. Lyall Shaw, Jr.
Mrs. Harold K. Groth	Mr. Lyall Shaw, Jr.

Historical Committee

Mr. Stanley A. Ransom, Chairman

Mr. Charles H. Gaines (deceased)	Mrs. Anita Holt
Miss Stella Gorse	Miss Olga Dean

Program Printing and Advertising Committee

Mr. Harold K. Groth, Chairman

Mrs. Sterling Alden	Mrs. Anita Holt
Mrs. Peter Avery	Mrs. Lew Holcombe
Mr. Charles Beach	Mrs. Royal Law
Mrs. A. Lindsay Carroll	Mrs. Herbert Langenfeld
Mrs. Thomas Dakin	Mrs. Elton Lewis
Mrs. Dorothy Day	Mrs. Alfred Lilliendahl
Mrs. George DeLand	Mrs. Clarence R. Messenger
Mrs. David Faye	Mrs. Carl O. Nelson
Mrs. Roy Fisher	Mr. Robert Nelson
Mrs. Edward Flagg	Mrs. Paul Parmelee
Mrs. Lawrence Godsoe	Mrs. Robert Pedersen
Mrs. Harold K. Groth	Mrs. Kenneth Roberts
Mrs. Raymond E. Hall	Mrs. Vance Shaffer
Mr. Russell Hayes	Mr. Lyall Shaw, Jr.
Mrs. Charles Higgins	Mrs. Lyall Shaw, Jr.
Mrs. Robert Hollis	Mrs. Louis Shepard
Mrs. Alan Taylor	

Invitation Committee

Mrs. Gladwin Parmelee, Chairman

Mrs. Dorothy Day	Mrs. Irene Shepard
Rev. Stanley Dokken	Mrs. Frederick Wright
Mrs. Carl O. Nelson	

Historical Display Committee

Mr. Stanley A. Ransom, Chairman

Mrs. Anita Holt	Miss Stella Gorse
Miss Olga Dean	

Souvenir Committee

Mr. L. Wayne Jones, Chairman

Mr. Peder Brastad
 Mr. A. Dana Cutter
 Mrs. L. Wayne Jones
 Mr. Warren Pinter

Mrs. Warren Pinter
 Mr. Elliot Parmelee
 Mr. Leslie Sindland
 Mr. Reidar Hoidalen

Food Concessions Committee

Mr. Russell Hayes, Chairman

Mrs. Thomas Dakin
 Miss Mary Dwyer
 Miss Edith Leopold

Mrs. Carl O. Nelson
 Mr. Anton Poulsen
 Mr. William Watson

Publicity Committee

Mrs. Gerald Farrington, Chairman

Mr. Joseph Bober
 Mr. Frank Cilley
 Mrs. A. Dana Cutter
 Mr. Gerald Farrington
 Mr. Roy Gundersen
 Mrs. William Hamel
 Mrs. William Jones

Mr. Charles McDonough
 Mrs. Charles McDonough
 Mr. Robert Nelson
 Mr. Joseph Robinson
 Mrs. Joseph Robinson
 Mrs. Leon Stoltze
 Mr. Stanley Thompson

Entertainment Committee

Mrs. John Salling, Chairman

Miss Carol Hurlbut, Vice-Chm.

Mr. Peter Avery
 Mr. Frank Cilley
 Mrs. Thomas Dakin
 Mrs. Jerome deForest
 Mrs. Russell Hayes
 Mrs. Robert Hollis
 Mr. Harry Kraiza

Mrs. Robert Nelson
 Miss Anne Louise Ransom
 Mrs. James A. Ransom
 Mr. Edward Perkins
 Mr. Leonard Ransom, Jr.
 Mr. Timothy Root
 Mr. David Tierney

Parade Committee

Mr. Alfred T. Lilliendahl, Chairman

Mr. Gilbert Austin
 Mr. Willy Bakken

Mr. Hubert Parmelee
 Mr. Gordon Wright

Tent and Speakers' Stand Committee

Mr. Edwin Bakken, Chairman

Mr. Willy Bakken
 Mr. Tom Bakken
 Mr. James Crowley

Mr. Arne Dalene
 Mr. Peter LaCasse
 Mr. Oscar Skaret

Community Service Committee

Rev. Herbert O. Kelsey, Jr., Chairman

Rev. Stanley Dokken

Rev. Richard Nordgren

Home Tour Committee

Mrs. William Jones, Chairman

Mrs. Harold K. Groth

Appendix

SELECTMEN

Following is a list of the Selectmen who have served the Town of Hartland from its beginning until the present time. The years given are those in which they served and are not the dates of election:

1761		
Joshua Giddings	Nehemiah Andrews	Simon Baxter
1762		
Thomas Giddings	Daniel Ensign	William Smiley
1763		
Thomas Giddings	Nehemiah Andrews	Josiah Bushnell
1764		
Thomas Giddings	Moses Cadwell	Thomas Beeman
1765		
Nehemiah Andrews	Joseph Gilbert	Thomas Beeman
1766		
Joshia Giddings	Simeon Crosby	Jason Millard
1767		
Hezekiah Ackly	Simeon Crosby	Uriel Holmes
1768		
Phinehas Kingsbury	Eleazer Ensign	William Smiley
1769		
Phinehas Kingsbury	Eleazer Ensign	Nehemiah Andrews
1770		
(Records mutilated — names torn from record)		
1771		
Thomas Giddings	Abel Brace	Benjamin Hutchins
1772-1773		
(Records mutilated — names missing)		
1774		
Phinehas Kingsbury	Eleazer Ensign	Uriel Holmes
1775		
Phinehas Kingsbury	Eleazer Ensign	Uriel Holmes
1776		
Phinehas Kingsbury	Abel Brace	Benjamin Hutchins

1777

Phinehas Kingsbury (refused)

Thomas Giddings chosen in P. Kingsbury's place

Lt. Eleazer Ensign

Alexander Bushnell

1778

Benjamin Hutchins

Asa Smith

Uriel Holmes

1779

Benjamin Hutchins

Uriel Holmes

Eleazer Ensign

Thomas Beeman

Israel Williams

1780

Thomas Beeman

Alexander Bushnell

John Barden

John Bates

Samuel Sutliff

1781

Thomas Giddings

John Bates

Uriel Holmes

Abel Brace

Benjamin Hutchins

1782

Isaac Burnham

Eleazer Ensign

John Wilder

Thomas Beeman, Jr.

Uriah Church

1783

Records mutilated — names missing)

1784

Uriel Holmes

Israel Williams

William Selby

1785

Uriel Holmes

Eleazer Ensign

William Selby

1786

Jeremiah Emmons

Uriel Holmes

Eleazer Ensign

Titus Hayes

Capt. Israel Williams

1787

Isaac Burnham

Thomas Beeman, Jr.

Abiather Newton

Gamalia Wilder

Joel Meacham

1788

Isaac Burnham

Thomas Beeman, Jr.

Abiather Newton

Gamalia Wilder

Joel Meacham

1789

Thomas Beeman, Jr.

Israel Williams

Uriel Holmes

1790

Abel Brace

Titus Hayes

Uriel Holmes

Thomas Beeman

Dan Canfield

1791

Uriel Holmes

Abel Brace

Thomas Beeman, Jr.

Dan Canfield

Titus Hayes

1792

Uriel Holmes

Titus Hayes

Thomas Beeman, Jr.

Dan Canfield

Aaron Bates

	1793	
Uriel Holmes Dan Canfield	Alexander Bushnell	Aaron Bates Isaac Burnham
	1794	
Uriel Holmes Aaron Bates	Dan Canfield	Isaac Burnham Enos Lane
	1795	
Uriel Holmes Aaron Bates	Dan Canfield	Isaac Burnham Thomas Beeman, Jr.
	1796	
Uriel Holmes Aaron Bates	Dan Canfield	Isaac Burnham Titus Hayes
	1797	
Thomas Beeman, Jr. John Treat	Aaron Bates	William Selby Benjamin Giddings
	1798	
Thomas Beeman, Jr. Uriel Holmes	Aaron Bates	Titus Hayes Abiather Newton
	1799	
Uriel Holmes Abiather Newton	Aaron Bates	Thomas Beeman, Jr. Titus Hayes
	1800	
Uriel Holmes Titus Hayes	Phinehas Coe	Aaron Bates Abiather Newton
	1801	
Uriel Holmes John Treat	Titus Hayes	Abiather Newton Phinehas Coe
	1802	
Uriel Holmes Phinehas Coe	Abner Newton	Abiather Newton Israel Williams
	1803	
Uriel Holmes Phinehas Coe	Daniel Beeman	Abiather Newton Israel Williams
	1804	
Uriel Holmes Samuel Bates	John Treat	Thomas Beeman, Jr. Phinehas Coe
	1805	
Thomas Beeman, Jr. Samuel Bates	Abiather Newton	William Selby Benjamin Giddings
	1806	
Thomas Beeman, Jr. Stephen Goodyear	Abiather Newton	Uriel Holmes Benjamin Giddings
	1807	
Uriel Holmes Benjamin Giddings	Stephen Goodyear	Timothy Ensign Phineahs Coe

1808		
Daniel Beeman Childs Taylor	Benjamin Giddings	Timothy Ensign Ephraim Shelby
1809		
Elijah Coe Childs Taylor	Timothy Ensign	Daniel Beeman Benjamin Giddings
1810		
Elijah Coe Childs Taylor	Timothy Ensign	Phineas Coe Benjamin Giddings
1811		
Thomas Beeman, Jr.	Abiather Newton	Cyrus Miller
1812		
Elijah Coe Cyrus Miller	John Robinson	Wyllys Wright George Reed
1813		
Thomas Beeman, Jr. Samuel Benjamin	John M. Case	Timothy Ensign Thomas T. Phelps
1814		
Reuben Beeman Thomas T. Phelps	Nathaniel Bosworth	Israel Williams Asa Bushnell
1815		
Augustus Hemphrey	Nathaniel Bosworth	Cyrus Miller
1816		
John Robinson Thomas Sugden	Daniel Mattocks	Dewitt Clark Samuel Benjamin
1817		
Thomas Sugden Eli Wilder	Warham Williams	Samuel Benjamin Moses Cowdrey
1818		
John M. Case	Samuel Benjamin	Thomas Sugden
1819		
Thomas Sugden Nathaniel Hayden	George Reed	Samuel Benjamin Dewitt Clark
1820		
Daniel Mattock Garitus Church	Jophar Beach	Reuben Beeman Samuel Blakslee, Jr.
1821		
Solomon Miller	Daniel Mattocks	Cyrus Miller
1822		
Daniel Mattocks	Bethuel Beeman	Thomas T. Phelps
1823		
Samuel Benjamin	Daniel Mattocks	Thomas Burnham
1824		
Nathaniel Bosworth Cyrus Miller	Samuel Benjamin	Thomas Sugden Rideout Moore

	1825	
Wyllys Wright	Ezra Doolittle	Asa Bushnell
	1826	
William Peters Asa Bushnell	John Robinson	Samuel Benjamin Ezekiel Alden
	1827	
Thomas Sugden	Israel Williams	Asa Bushnell
	1828	
William Peters	Thomas Sugden	Samuel Blakesley, Jr.
	1829	
Bethuel Beeman	Nathaniel Gaylord, Jr.	Asa Bushnell
	1830	
Ira Beach	Phelps Humphreys	Asa Bushnell
	1831	
Phelps Humphreys	George C. Gilman	Warren Stebbins
	1832	
Theodore Bushnell	Solomon E. Miller	Benjamin Giddings
	1833	
Phelps Humphreys	George C. Gilman	Benjamin Giddings
	1834	
Theodore Bushnell	Phelps Humphreys	Benjamin Giddings
	1835	
Benjamin Giddings	Theodore Bushnell	Phelps Humphreys
	1836	
Lent Benham	John Gates	Cyrus Miller
	1837	
John Gates	Benson Doc	Cyrus Miller
	1838	
Henry Robinson	Benjamin Giddings	Samuel Blakesley
	1839	
Samuel Blakesley	Benjamin Giddings	Henry Robinson
	1840	
Henry Robinson	Benjamin Giddings	Francis Clark
	1841	
John Church	Timothy E. Williams	Warren Stebbins
	1842	
Timothy E. Williams	John Church	Warren Stebbins
	1843	
Jeremiah W. Emmons	Thomas S. Bosworth	Erastus Merwin
	1844	
Henry Robinson	Amos H. Cowdery	Virgil Stebbins
	1845	
Amos Cowdery	Darwin Griffin	Virgil Stebbins
	1846	
Darwin Griffin	Benjamin Giddings	Virgil Stebbins

	1847	
Jeremiah D. Emmons* (Geo. D. Cornish)	Nathaniel Gaylord	Giles M. Lawton
	1848	
Darwin Griffin	Benjamin Giddings	Francis Clark
	1849	
John Gates	Higgins Huxford	Francis Clark
	1851	
Chester W. Gilman	John Gates	Warren Stebbins
	1852	
Orson C. Gates	Darwin Griffin	Francis Clark
	1853	
Orson C. Gates	Darwin Griffin	Dwight Williams
	1854	
Darwin Griffin	William McLoud	Giles M. Lawton
	1855	
Lester Cowdery	Nathaniel W. Gaylord	Virgil Stebbins
	1856	
Nathaniel W. Gaylord	Lester Cowdery	Seth F. Roberts
	1857	
Luther H. Stebbins	Dwight L. Williams	Jonathan Miller
	1858	
Darwin Griffin	Miron E. Miller	Warren Stebbins
	1859	
Watson Gibbins	Michael Ward	Jonathan A. Miller
	1860	
Darwin Griffin	Darius Emmons	Salmon Giddings
	1861	
George Cornish	Dwight L. Williams	Salmon Giddings
	1862	
Amos Osborn	George D. Cornish	Salmon Giddings
	1863	
Miron E. Miller	Davis N. Bosworth	Salmon Giddings
	1864	
Dwight L. Williams	Miron E. Miller	Silas P. Banning
	1865	
Miron E. Miller	Dwight L. Williams	Silas P. Banning
	1866	
Flavel C. Newton	Miron E. Miller	Jonathan Miller
	1867	
Miron E. Miller	Flavel C. Newton	Jonathan A. Miller
	1868	
Munson Merriam	George D. Cornish	Homer A. Fuller
	1869	
Ebenezar Miller	Darwin Griffin	Seymour F. Moore

	1870	
Dwight L. Williams	Ebenzar Miller	Joseph Thompson
	1871	
Ebenzar Miller	Flavel Newton	Homer Fuller
	1872	
Flavel Newton	benezer Miller	Joseph Carrier
	1873	
Phineas C. Stevens	Alonzo B. Gaines	Howell Bates
	1874	
Flavel Newton	Ebenazar H. Miller	Phineas C. Stevens
	1875	
O. C. Gates	Thaddeus Osborn	Geo. Thompson
	1876	
Thaddeus Osborn	Edward A. Collins	Aralza W. Coe
	1877	
Edward A. Collins	Thaddeus Osborn	Geo. N. Thompson
	1878	
Geo. N. Thompson	Thaddeus Osborn	Geo. M. Emmons
	1879	
Geo. N Thompson	Amos Osborn	Geo. M. Emmons
	1880	
Geo. N. Thompson	Dwight Merriam	Nathaniel Gaylord
	1881	
Geo. N. Thompson	Orson Gates	George Cornish
	1882	
Orton B. French	Amos W. Dean	Phineas Stevens
	1883	
Ebenezer M. Miller	Amos Dean	Orton B. French
	1884	
Ebenezer M. Miller	Amos Dean	Orton B. French
	1885	
Henry J. Gates	Orton B. French	Ebenezer H. Miller
	1886	
Henry J. Gates	Henry H. Griswold	Ebenezer H. Miller
	1887	
Henry J. Gates	Henry H. Griswold	Clarence E. Ward
	1888	
Alman C. Banning	William C. French	Harvey L. Wilcox
	1889	
Horace J. Ward	Irving D. Emmons	Almon C. Banning
	1890	
Horace J. Ward	Irving D. Emmons	Timothy C. Tiffany
	1891	
Irving D. Emmons	John H. Wheeler	Timothy C. Tiffany

	1892	
Irving D. Emmons	John H. Wheeler	Calvin E. Beman
	1893	
Henry J. Gates	John H. Wheeler	Osborn E. Murphy
	1894	
P. C. Stevens	E. A. Gaylord	C. O'Meara
	1895	
P. C. Stevens	Bryant J. Marks	Timothy C. Tiffany
	1896	
Clarence E. Ward	Ed. A. Collins	Irving D. Emmons
	1897	
Clarence E. Ward	Irving D. Emmons	Edward A. Collins
	1898	
George W. Miller	Edward E. Emmons	Clarence E. Ward
	1899	
Geo. W. Miller	Edward E. Emmons	Carlton E. Osborn
	1900	
Geo. W. Miller	Edward E. Emmons	Carlton E. Osborn
	1901	
Geo. W. Miller	Edward E. Emmons	Timothy C. Tiffany
	1902	
Geo. W. Miller	Edward E. Emmons	Timothy C. Tiffany
	1903	
Geo. W. Miller	Ed. E. Emmons	Edward A. Gaylord
	1904	
Geo. W. Miller	Ed. E. Emmons	Edward A. Gaylord
	1905	
Geo. W. Miller	Edward E. Emmons	Timothy C. Tiffany
	1906	
Geo. W. Miller	Edward E. Emmons	Edward A. Gaylord
	1907	
Geo. W. Miller	Edward E. Emmons	Timothy C. Tiffany
	1908	
Wilbur S. Miller	Junie O. Banning	Edward A. Gaylord
	1909	
Wilbur S. Miller	Willis Wright	Edward A. Gaylord
	1910	
Wilbur S. Miller	Willis Wright	Edward A. Gaylord
	1911	
Wilbur S. Miller	Willis Wright	Edward A. Gaylord
	1912	
Wilbur S. Miller	Willis Wright	Edward A. Gaylord
	1913	
Wilbur S. Miller	Willis Wright	Milton French

Wilbur S. Miller	1914 Willis Wright	Carlton E. Osborn
Wilbur S. Miller	1915 Willis Wright	Carlton E. Osborn
Wilbur S. Miller	1916 Willis Wright	Edward A. Gaylord
Wilbur S. Miller	1917 Willis Wright	Carlton E. Osborn
Wilbur S. Miller	1918 Willis Wright	Charles T. Osborn
Wilbur S. Miller	1919 Willis Wright	Milton W. French
Wilbur S. Miller	1920 Willis Wright	Charles T. Osborn
Wilbur S. Miller	1921 Willis Wright	Charles T. Osborn
Wilbur S. Miller	1922 Willis Wright	Charles T. Osborn
Wilbur S. Miller	1923 Willis Wright	Carlton E. Osborn
Wilbur S. Miller	1924 Willis Wright	Carlton E. Osborn
Wilbur S. Miller	1925 Willis Wright	Carlton E. Osborn
Wilbur S. Miller	1926 Willis Wright	Carlton E. Osborn
Wilbur S. Miller	1927 Willis Wright	Carlton E. Osborn
Wilbur S. Miller	1928 Willis Wright	Carlton E. Osborn
Wilbur S. Miller	1929 Willis Wright	Carlton E. Osborn
Wilbur S. Miller	1930 Willis Wright	Carlton E. Osborn
Wilbur S. Miller	1931 Willis Wright	Edgar Hawks
Wilbur S. Miller	1932 Willis Wright	Edward Goetz
Wilbur S. Miller	1933 Willis Wright	Edward Goetz
Wilbur S. Miller	1934 Willis Wright	Dean S. Fansler
Wilbur S. Miller	1935 William Raabe	Anthony Pasquariello

	1936	
Wilbur S. Miller	William Raabe	Geo. F. Goetz
	1937	
Wilbur S. Miller	William Raabe	Geo. F. Goetz
	1938	
Wilbur S. Miller	William E. Raabe	Geo. F. Goetz
	1939	
Wilbur S. Miller	William E. Raabe	Geo. F. Goetz
	1940	
Wilbur S. Miller	William E. Raabe	Geo. F. Goetz
	1941	
Wilbur S. Miller	William E. Raabe	Geo. F. Goetz
	1942	
Wilbur S. Miller	William E. Raabe	Hugh McCracken
	1943	
Wilbur S. Miller	William E. Raabe	No 3rd Selectman
	1944	
Wilbur S. Miller	William E. Raabe	Louis Shepard, Jr.
	1945	
Nathaniel Emmons	Albert Raabe	Wilber S. Miller
	1946	
Nathaniel Emmons	Constant W. Gower	Thomas A. Baggs
	1947	
Nathaniel Emmons	Constant W. Gower	Geo. F. Goetz
	1948	
Nathaniel Emmons	Constant W. Gower	Geo. F. Goetz
	1949	
Nathaniel Emmons** (James A. Ransom)	Constant W. Gower	Geo. F. Goetz
	1950	
James A. Ransom	Frank A. Cleveland	Geo. F. Goetz, Sr.
	1951	
James A. Ransom	Constant W. Gower	Louis C. Shepard, Jr.
	1952	
James A. Ransom	Constant W. Gower	Walter Stewart
	1953	
James A. Ransom	Perry M. Ransom	Geo. W. Goetz, Jr.
	1954	
James A. Ransom	Perry M. Ransom	Walter Stewart
	1955	
James A. Ransom	Perry M. Ransom	Walter Stewart
	1956	
James A. Ransom	Henry Clark	Walter Stewart
	1957	
James A. Ransom	Henry Clark	Walter Stewart

	1958	
James A. Ransom	Henry Clark	Leonard C. Ransom
	1959	
James A. Ransom	Edwin Bakken	Paul Crunden
	1960	
James A. Ransom	Edwin Bakken	Paul Crunden
	1961	
James A. Ransom	Edwin Bakken	Paul Crunden

Notes:

- *Jeremiah W. Emmons resigned and Geo. D. Cornish was appointed to fill the vacancy.
- **James A. Ransom elected to office of 1st Selectman to fill vacancy caused by resignation of Nathaniel Emmons.

TOWN CLERKS
TOWN OF HARTLAND, CONN.

1761-1764	Joseph Gilbert
1765-1767	Thomas Giddings
1768	Nehemiah Andrews
1769	Thomas Giddings
1770-1778	Phinehas Kingsbury
1779-1780	Eleazer Ensign
1781-1783	Uriel Holmes
1784-1792	Eleazer Ensign
1793-1796	Uriel Holmes
1797-1798	Prince Taylor, Jr.
1799	Titus Hayes
1800-1802	Uriel Holmes
1803-1805	Prince Taylor, Jr.
1806	Asa Haines
1807	James Francis
1808	Daniel Wadsworth
1809-1810	Prince Taylor, Jr.
1811-1813	Phineas Coe
1814-1816	Warham Williams
1817-1819	Rev. Aaron Church
1820-1822	Warham Williams
1823-1824	Josiah C. Banning
1825	Thomas Sugden
1826-1828	Austin Ensign
1829-1831	Josiah C. Banning
1832-1834	Austin Ensign
1835-1836	Josiah C. Banning
1837	Thomas Sugden

1838-1839	Timothy E. Williams
1840-1842	Benjamin Giddings
1843	Ashbel H. Phelps
1844-1846	Timothy E. Williams
1847-1848	Frederick Pickett
1849	John J. Phelps
1850-1851	George W. Gilman
1852	George A. Stillman
1853-1854	Milo Giddings
1855	Timothy C. Gillett
1856	Edward A. Gaylord
1857-1857	James H. Seymour
1859-1861	Lester H. Gaines
1862-1864	James H. Seymour
1865-1867	Frederick Pickett
1868-1870	Henry Robinson
1871-1873	Charles E. Bushnell
1873	Watson E. Gibbons (To fill vacancy)
1874	Leonard L. Dickinson
1875-1876	George L. Gilman
1877-1879	Salmon B. Giddings
1880	Homer S. Bell
1880	Watson Gibbons (To fill vacancy)
1881	Watson Gibbons
1882	Benjamin H. Selby
1883	Henry H. Griswold
1884	Arthur B. Ferry
1885-1892	Geo. W. Miller
1893	Orton B. French
1894	D. W. Merrill
1895	Edgar B. Case
1897-1900	Wilbur S. Miller
1901-1911	Augustin C. Feley
1912-1923	David N. Gaines
1924-1925	Fred L. Bragg
1926-1934	David N. Gaines
1935-1949	James A. Ransom
1950-1961	Jerome de Forest

REPRESENTATIVES FROM HARTLAND

(Date of election given)

1877	Ebenezar H. Miller, Uriah Nickerson
1879	Dwight L. Williams, Phineas Stevens
1880	Orson C. Gates, Geo. H. Ransbottom
1881	Watson Gibbons, Micheal Ward
1882	Henry J. Gates, Geo. H. Clark

1883	Oliver P. Cowdery, Wm. M. W. Ward
1885	Orton B. French, Geo. Emmons
1888	Merrick Knight, Geo. W. Miller
1891	Watson French, Elijah Hayes
1893	Geo. Thompson, Horace J. Ward
1895	Carlton E. Osborn, John H. Wheeler
1897	Edgar B. Case, Bryant J. Marks
1899	David N. Gaines, Wilbur S. Miller
1903	Osborn E. Murphy, Edgar D. Bunnell
1905	Constant W. Gower, Geo. W. Miller
1907	James B. Ball, Nymphas M. Wright
1909	Edward E. Emmons, Augustine C. Feley
1911	Wilbur S. Miller, E. A. Gaylord
1913	Talcott T. Banning, Robert W. Hayes
1915	Charles T. Osborn, John L. Hitchcock
1917	Leonard M. Dickinson, Everett C. Emmons
1919	Waldo W. Miller, Robert W. Hayes
1921	David N. Gaines, Walter E. Cole
1923	Byron C. Stratton, Marie P. Emmons
1925	Edward G. Wraight, George F. Goetz
1927	Fred D. Stevens, Carlton E. Osborn
1927	Robert W. Hayes, Edith V. Miller
1931	Edith V. Miller, Constant W. Gower
1933	Edith V. Miller, James A. Ransom
1935	Raymond Hall, Nathaniel Emmons
1937	Nathaniel Emmons, Raymond Hall
1939	Raymond Hall, Kenneth J. Hayes
1941	Frederick Raabe, William Schenetsky
1943	William Schenetsky, Alice Parmelee
1945	Perry M. Ransom, Dwight G. Stone
1947	Perry M. Ransom, Dwight G. Stone
1949	Perry M. Ransom, Edward B. Flagg
1951	Edward B. Flagg, James B. Hall
1953	Alice Parmelee, James B. Hall
1955	Luther B. Martin, James B. Hall
1957	Luther B. Martin, James B. Hall
1959	Harold K. Groth, Luther B. Martin
1961	Harold K. Groth, Luther B. Martin

HISTORICAL NOTE

The following observations concerning the evolution of Connecticut Probate Districts may be of service to some who have occasion to use this index or consult the Probate Records or Files of this locality:—

The Hartland Probate District which includes the Town of Hartland was constituted by the Connecticut General Assembly at its June 3 Session 1837. Prior to this date Hartland was included in the Probate District of Granby which was constituted at the May Session 1807 from

the Probate Districts of Simsbury & Hartford which were constituted at the May Session 1769 from the Probate District of Hartford which was constituted at the May Session 1666.

Therefore the Probate Records and Files for that section now known as the Hartland Probate District, are or have been in the following jurisdictions:—

May, 1666 to May, 1769 in Hartford Probate District
 May, 1769 to May, 1807 in Simsbury Probate District
 May, 1807 to June 3, 1836 in Granby Probate District
 June 3, 1836 to date in Hartland Probate District

JUDGES OF PROBATE DISTRICT OF HARTLAND, CONNECTICUT

1836	Phelps Humphreys	1864	George D. Cornish
1837	Erastus Beman	1883	Alonzo B. Gaines
1838	Austin Ensign	1888	Orton B. French
1839	Nathaniel Bosworth	1895	Clarence E. Ward
1840	William Selby	1903	Orton B. French
1842	Timothy E. Williams	1907	Fred L. Dutton
1843	Virgil Stebbins	1911	Carlton E. Osborn
1847	Timothy E. Williams	1937	Helen Goetz
1861	Warren Stebbins	1949	Stanley A. Ransom
1862	Watson Gibbons		

MARRIAGES

Marriages Celebrated in West Hartland As They Appear in the Records of the Second Ecclesiastical Society and Second Congregational Church of Hartland (West) Connecticut

8-12-1782	Jonathan Ward of Simsbury and Nancy Beach of Hartland.
11-28-1782	Silas Culver of New Haven and Phebe Sill of Hartland.
2-23-1783	Ephraim Tiffany and Anna Harger, both of Hartland.
12-11-1783	George Treat and Lydia Ensign, both of Hartland.
1- 8-1784	Jonathan Allen of Hartland and Lois Roberts of Granville.
7- 1-1784	Seth Goodwin of New Hartford and Deborah Allen of Hartland.
12- 9-1784	Adam Blair and Thankfull Black, both of Blandford.
12-16-1784	Joseph Wilcox of Barkhamsted and Hannah Banning of Hartland.
1-22-1785	Isaac Jacklin and Mercy Chaugrum, both of Barkhamsted.
5-25-1785	Daniel de Wolf and Polly Fowler, both of Granville.
7-14-1785	Theophilus Allen and Mehitabel Wilder, both of Hartland.
8- 9-1785	Samuel Spencer and Lydia Brockway, both of Hartland.

- 9- 1-1785 Abel Brace, Jr. and Olive Roberts, both of Hartland.
 10-23-1785 Timothy Ensign and Chloe Burnham, both of Hartland.
 2-21-1786 Aaron Cleavland and Abigail Munroe, both of Hartland.
 2-23-1786 Israel Williams of Hartland and Catherine Coe of Granville.
 5-17-1786 Martin Moses and Lydia Hale, both of Hartland.
 6- 1-1786 Reuben Johnson and Bethia King, both of Barkhamsted.
 8-31-1786 Thomas Porter and Phebe Leavit, both of Hartland.
 9-24-1786 David Robinson of Granville and Cata Coe of Hartland.
 2-26-1787 Timothy C. Crosby and Eunice Sutlief, both of Hartland.
 3-19-1787 John Giddings and Achsah Palmer, both of Hartland.
 3-19-1787 Calvin Cone and Sarah Brockway, both of Hartland.
 7- 5-1787 Benoni Evans and Trubo Ganyard, both of Hartland.
 12-30-1787 Starling Crosby and Mabel Seward, both of Hartland.
 2-28-1788 David Williams of Granville and Eunice Gap of Barkhamsted.
 3- 3-1788 Timothy Seward of Salem, N. Y. and Martha Seward of Hartland.
 7-31-1788 Titus Allen of Hartland and Jerusha Allenses of Southington.
 8-24-1788 Rodarick Holcomb and Rebecca Winthrop, both of Windsor.
 6- 2-1789 Niles Giddings and Naomi Hale, both of Hartland.
 2-17-1790 Jedediah Bushnell, Jr. and Keziah Rice, both of Hartland.
 6-18-1790 John Wait of Winsted and Sarah Wilder of Hartland.
 11- 4-1790 Benjamin Moore of Granby and Jane Ganyard of Hartland.
 1- 5-1791 Heman Barber and Almira Brace, both of Hartland.
 2-21-1791 Baruch Cooley of Granville and Hannah Lee of Chatham.
 5- 1-1791 Oliver Phelps and Anne Kellogg, both of Hartland.
 6- 5-1791 Peter Ganyard and Rachel Bushnell, both of Hartland.
 6-16-1791 Ezra Mallery of Southington and Linda Ensign of Hartland.
 7- 7-1791 Norton Wright of Colebrook and Lucy Banning of Hartland.
 7-24-1791 Ambrose Goddard of Granby and Phebe Hayes of Hartland.
 12-15-1791 Elihu Gilman and Mercy Stanley, both of Hartland.
 12-15-1791 Elias Gilman and Rachel Stanley, both of Hartland.
 7-16-1792 James Miller of New York and Rosannah Hayes of Hartland.
 10-23-1792 Josiah Arnold of Simsbury and Elizabeth Beach of Hartland.
 11-12-1792 Israel Brewer of Granby and Jane Markham of Hartland.
 11-14-1792 Jeduthan Brace and Clarissa Bushnell, both of Hartland.
 11-22-1792 Justus Allen and Lucy Gilman, both of Hartland.
 11-29-1792 James Ganyard and Phebe Hatch, both of Hartland.
 5-19-1793 Samuel Sutlief, Jr. and Ruth Grainger, both of Hartland.
 1- 2-1794 Truman Holcomb of Barkhamsted and Sarah Banning of Hartland.

1-14-1794	Stephen Stanley and Lydia Brace, both of Hartland.
1-29-1794	Chauncey Allen and Polly Allen, both of Hartland.
4-29-1794	Thaddeus Munson of Granville and Sarah Mack of Hartland.
5-23-1794	Oliver Sheppard and Sarah Spencer, both of Hartland.
11-27-1794	Nathaniel Butler, Jr. and Sebra Canfield, both of Hartland.
11-27-1794	Perry Sheldon and Rhoda Sutlief, both of Hartland.
2-19-1795	Daniel Canfield and Sibil Gilman, both of Hartland.
3-20-1795	Thomas Ballard of Freehold, N. Y. and Cata Provence of Granville.
4-29-1795	Abel Wooster of Derby and Widow Lucy Frisbie of Barkhamsted.
7- 5-1795	David Lane and Betsey Ballard, both of Granville.
9- 6-1795	Nathan Kent of Colebrook and Ruth Banning of Hartland.
11- 5-1795	Daniel Owen Loudon and Rachel Stow, both of Granville.
11-16-1795	Thomas Fox and Thankful Hatch, both of Granville.
4- 7-1796	Captain (of Winsted) Wilson and Hannah Bushnell of Hartland.
9-13-1796	John Taylor and Anne Wilder, both of Hartland.
12-31-1796	John Hyde and Ruth Spencer, both of Hartland.
1- 3-1797	Elijah Clark of Simsbury and Polly Bishop of Hartland.
1-18-1797	Nathan Burnham of East Windsor and Merriam Burnham of Hartland.
1-31-1797	Ichabod Backus of Lee and Widow Annis Moore of Hartland.
8- 9-1797	Theodore Clements and Nabby Bates, both of Hartland.
1-18-1798	Daniel Spencer, Jr. and Betsey Spencer, both of Hartland.
6- 3-1798	Hosea Hinsdale and Betsey Sheppard, both of New Hartford.
8-16-1798	Jonathan Hall of Blandford and Mary Newton of Durham.
8-16-1798	Roger Newton of Durham and Eunice Hyde of Hartland.
10-21-1798	Nathaniel Bosworth and Hannah Stanley, both of Hartland.
11- 7-1798	Joseph Sheldon of Granville and Cata Oliott of Hartland.
1-16-1799	Abraham Bishop and Mary Crosby, both of Hartland.
1-17-1799	Theodore Ensign of Hartland and Lucina Barber of Windsor.
2-14-1799	Seth King and Lois Benjamin, both of Hartland.
2-24-1799	Sylvester Stevens and Lydia Banning, both of Hartland.
5-16-1799	Elisha Richards of Norfolk and Lucy Hayes of Hartland.
6- 6-1799	Lebbeus Beach and Hope Spencer, both of Hartland.
6-26-1799	David Sutlief of Hartland and Sylvia Tuller of Simsbury.
12- 2-1799	Peter Barber of Simsbury and Hannah Taylor of Hartland.
1-26-1800	Isaac Olmsted, Jr. and Phebe Spencer, both of Hartland.
4- 8-1800	Stephen Bushnell, Jr. and Sarah Bates, both of Hartland.
4-29-1800	Theodore Clements and Rhoda Taylor, both of Hartland.
5- 1-1800	Ezekiel Strong Beach and Mercy L. Beach, both of Hartland.

- 5- 8-1800 Ralph Coe and Abiah Sutlief, both of Hartland.
 9-18-1800 Oliver Bushnell of Hartland and Lucinda Wilson of Barkhamsted.
 9-29-1800 Alvin Barber and Lucy Goodrich, both of Hartland.
 2-19-1801 James Shepard and Nabby Andrews, both of Hartland.
 2-25-1801 John Banning and Lydia Reed, both of Hartland.
 4-27-1801 Elam Jones of Barkhamsted and Sally Hyde of Hartland.
 9-21-1801 Thomas Scuyler Sill and Chloe Gilman, both of Hartland.
 5-30-1802 Alexeus Baldwin of Woodbridge and Comfort Baldwin of Hartland.
 9- 7-1802 William Hull and Anne Hyde, both of Hartland.
 9- 8-1802 Asa Chamberlain of Durham and Mehitabel Simmons of Granville.
 11- 8-1802 William Spencer and Lois Hoskins, both of Hartland.
 12- 2-1802 Calvin Smith and Anne Trunkey, both of Hartland.
 1- 3-1803 Edward Garman, Jr. and Esther Bates, both of Hartland.
 4-21-1803 Selah Treat and Anne Williams, both of Hartland.
 5-17 1803 Alby Cornwall and Catherine Pendleton, both of Granville.
 11-14-1803 Jesse Ives of Barkhamsted and Bulah Atkins of Hartland.
 11-16-1803 Stephen Bates and Matilday Beach, both of Hartland.
 12- 4-1803 Amasa Woodford of Farmington and Alma Beach of Hartland.
 12- 8-1803 Elizar Goodrich and Modena Bassett, both of Hartland.
 1-26-1804 Ezra Hyde of Hartland and Sarah Smith of Barkhamsted.
 2-13-1804 Samuel Bates, Jr. of Hartland and Mary Harding of Woodbridge.
 3- 1-1804 Starling Banning and Eunice Nichols, both of Hartland.
 4-10-1804 Dan Barber of Barkhamsted and Sally Bishop of Hartland.
 6-26-1804 Calvin Coe of Granville and Anna Coe of Hartland.
 7- 8-1804 Alexander Loyd of Blandford and Clarinda Gridley of Granville.
 10-17-1804 Giles Rose of Granville and Hannah Atkins of Hartland.
 10-25-1804 Aaron Crane of Barkhamsted and Sibil Atkins of Hartland.
 11-15-1804 John Benjamin of Hillsdale, N. Y. and Jerusha Spencer of Hartland.
 11-22-1804 David Bushnell and Polly Thomas, both of Hartland.
 12-20-1804 Samuel Merret, Jr. of Barkhamsted and Lucy Bushnell of Hartland.
 8-29-1805 Harry Reed and Lucy Hyde, both of Hartland.
 9-22-1805 Moses Cowdery and Widow Lydia Baldwin, both of Hartland.
 10- 2-1805 George Gillett of Granville and Huldah Ensign of Hartland.
 12-25-1805 Israel Williams, Jr. and Betsey Beach, both of Hartland.
 1- 9-1806 Joel Ensign and Eunice Newton, both of Hartland.
 2-12-1806 John Bell of Southamton and Lydia Stow of Hartland.
 2-23-1806 Nathan Spencer and Rebekah Olmsted, both of Hartland.
 3- 5-1806 Pliny Moore of Hartland and Sally Davis of Somers.

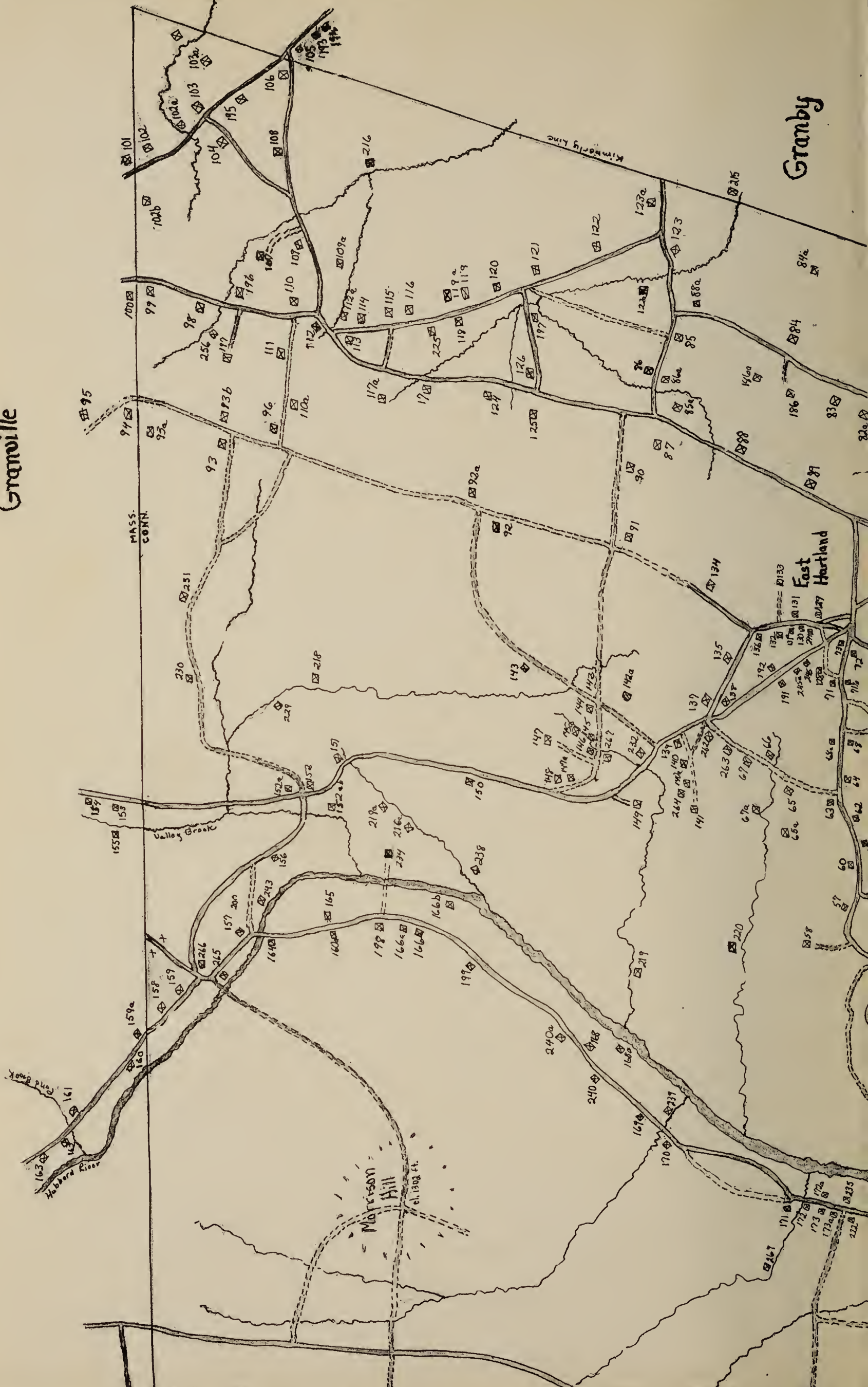
- 3-19-1806 Oliver Merrett of Barkhamsted and Pamela Bushnell of Hartland.
- 10- 4-1806 Ozi Blakeslee of Colebrook and Ahiah Taylor of Hartland.
- 11-27-1806 Erastus Merrell of Barkhamsted and Lucinda Bushnell of Hartland.
- 11-27-1806 Asahel Newell of Barkhamsted and Betsey Bushnell of Hartland.
- 12-22-1806 Eli Taintor of Windsor and Abigal Atkins of Hartland.
- 1- 8-1807 Peleg Shepard of Barkhamsted and Electa Granger of Hartland.
- 3-11-1807 Ebenezer Welles and Diantha Coe, both of Hartland.
- 4- 9-1807 Elihu Beach of Hartland and Ruth Sheldon of Granville.
- 4-21-1807 Olin Maltby of Norfolk and Hannah Osborne of Hartland.
- 6-24-1807 Eleazer Treat and Vienna Crosby, both of Hartland.
- 7- 9-1807 David Hall of Blandford and Lucy Griswold of Middletown.
- 10-27-1807 Timothy Miller of Granville and Sally Baldwin of Hartland.
- 11-12-1807 Dan Frost of Granville and Pamela Robinson of Hartland.
- 12-29-1807 Roswell Holcomb and Polly Spellman, both of Hartland.
- 12-31-1807 Issacher Graves of Granville and Ruth Blakeslee of Hartland.
- 4-26-1808 Almond Giddings and Lowly Miller, both of Hartland.
- 5- 4-1809 Gideon Hull of Granville and Curancy Osborne of Hartland.
- 8-24-1809 Anson Williams and Eunice Wadsworth, both of Hartland.
- 10-14-1809 Arnold Oatman and Abigal Hayes, both of Hartland.
- 10-25-1809 Shaler F. Burnham and Betsey Goodyear, both of Hartland.
- 10-26-1809 Warham Williams and Lydia Ensign, both of Hartland.
- 11-14-1809 Samuel Gaines of Granville and Esther Blakeslee of Hartland.
- 3- 8-1810 John Rogers of Granville and Diodena Beach of Hartland.
- 7- 1-1810 Levi Wildman and Sally Stow, both of Barkhamsted.
- 8-14-1810 Childs Taylor, Jr. and Althea Beach, both of Hartland.
- 11- 1-1810 Truman Cook of Colebrook and Abiah Bushnell of Hartland.
- 1- 6-1811 Ezra Crosby of Smithfield, Ohio and Cynthia Beals of Barkhamsted.
- 5-23-1811 Silas Collins and Lucy Granger, both of Hartland.
- 10-17-1811 Lyman Merrells of Canton and Lowly Goodyear of Hartland.
- 11- 5-1811 Ebenezer Gains of Granville and Ann Blakeslee of Hartland.
- 11-28-1811 Jotham Holcomb of Granby and Ruth Kent of Hartland.
- 12-31-1811 Lyman Slade of Barkhamsted and Sally French of Hartland.
- 1-22-1812 Henry R. Seymour of Hartford and Eliza Selden of Hartland.

- 2-13-1812 Doctor William Hooker of Westhampton and Rhoda Ensign of Hartland.
- 5-20-1812 Charles Abel of Lebanon and Abigail Bates of Hartland.
- 7- 8-1812 Captain Grennell Spencer of Winchester and Polly Case of Hartland.
- 8-23-1812 Joel Slade of Barkhamsted and Clarissa French of Hartland.
- 9-23-1812 Austin Ensign of Hartland and Laura Beach of Barkhamsted.
- 12- 9-1812 Oliver Tiffany of Barkhamsted and Nancy Reed of Hartland.
- 3- 3-1813 Abial Beach and Stata Newton, both of Hartland.
- 3-23-1813 Asher Tiffany of Granby and Hannah H. French of Hartland.
- 6-20-1813 Henry Robinson and Betsey Bates, both of Hartland.
- 7-11-1813 Erastus Eggleston of Winchester and Rachel French of Hartland.
- 10-11-1813 Elisha Ransom of Barkhamsted and Cata Coe of Hartland.
- 12- 8-1813 Oliver Shepard of Barkhamsted and Ruth Hyde of Hartland.
- 2- 2-1814 Adoniram Webb of Otis and Diademia Moore of Hartland.
- 2- 8-1814 Samuel Churchill of Champlain, N. Y. and Martha S. Bosworth of Sandisfield.
- 3-21-1814 William Gorman and Abigail Woodruff, both of Hartland.
- 10-26-1814 Ezra B. Beach and Polly Bates, both of Hartland.
- 9-20-1815 Elisha Bushnell and Nancy Knapp, both of Hartland.
- 10-12-1815 Harry Bishop of Winsted and Sophia Granger of Hartland.
- 11-20-1815 Fredus Peters and Alma Bushnell, both of Hartland.
- 11-30-1815 Samuel E. Woodbridge and Betsey Burnham, both of Hartland.
- 9-19-1816 James C. Cleaveland of Winchester and Sally Taylor of Hartland.
- 10-10-1816 Harvey Tuttle of Leroy, N. Y. and Lucy Taylor of Hartland.
- 2- 4-1817 Orestus Rising of Suffield and Harriet Gaylord of Windsor.
- 9-21-1817 Marvin Hyde of Vernon, Ohio and Mary E. Reed of Hartland.
- 10-13-1817 Samuel Pomeroy of Norwich, N. Y. and Mary Coe of Hartland.
- 11-30-1817 Asher Henley and Phebe Hitchcock, both of Hartland.
- 1- 7-1818 Charles Case and Elsey Treat, both of Hartland.
- 2-19-1818 Ira Beach and Candace Case, both of Hartland.
- 3-15-1818 James Bushnell of Smithfield, N. Y. and Rachel Bushnell of Hartland.
- 6-25-1818 Cyrus Curtis of New Hartford and Lura Bushnell of Hartland.
- 3-18-1819 John Gates and Deborah Bushnell, both of Hartland.
- 9-16-1819 Daniel Gorman and Catharine Bushnell, both of Hartland.

4-13-1820	Lemuel H. Parsons of Lenox and Lidia C. Crosby of Hartland.
4-30-1820	Silas Collins of Hartland and Sally Cornwall of Granville.
6- 1-1820	Elias Beach and Betsey Hayden, both of Hartland.
7- 9-1820	Harvy Elkey and Fanny Freeman (Colored).
10-31-1820	John Wiard of Bristol and Julia French of Hartland.
5- 2-1821	Lester Taylor of Clarendon, Ohio and Mary Wilder of Hartland.
5-30-1821	Thomas D. Bosworth and Lucretia Doolittle, both of Hartland.
11-22-1821	Richard Leffingwell of Chatham and Prudence Chapman of Hartland.
1- 1-1822	Leverett Bishop of Winchester and Julia Granger of Hartland.
4-14-1822	Ebenezer Luce of Bainbridge, N. Y. and Jane Stevens of Hartland.
5-16-1822	Seth Barber, Jr. of Barkhamsted and Melissa Bushnell of Hartland.
11-27-1822	Solomon Sturdivant of Otis and Polly Maria Higley of Hartland.
12-25-1822	Linus Bushnell and Harriet Orsborn, both of Hartland.
4- 2-1823	Luman P. Moore of Barkhamsted and Eunice Merriam of Hartland.
5- 7-1823	Eleazer Ensign and Harriet Bosworth, both of Hartland.
1-29-1824	Ransom Hayden and Hannah Mattocks, both of Hartland.
5-19-1824	Ambrose E. Doolittle of Cheshire and Betsey Ann Benham of Hartland.
12- 9-1824	Samuel Couch of Barkhamsted and Abigal Bosworth of Hartland.
8-30-1825	Rev. Adolphus Ferry and Orpha Benham, both of Hartland.
5-22-1827	Manaly Peters of Litchfield and Hanah Griswold of Hartland.
9-20-1827	Titus Brockway of Hartford, Ohio and Jerusha Woodbridge of Hartland.
4-13-1833	Wells Moore of Hartland and Polly Warner of Southwick.
6-30-1833	Samuel Marks of Blandford and Cornelia Benham of Hartland.
10-13-1833	Andrew Brown and Patty Murfee of Colebrook.
11-27-1834	Rev. John A. Hempsted and Mary Case of Hartland.
10-27-1836	Silas Churchill of New Lebanon, N. Y. and Cornelia S. W. Lynde of Hartford, Connecticut.

*Here Endeth Records of Marriages As Recorded in the
First Record Book of the Second Society*

Granville



Granby

East Hartland

Morison Hill
el. 1302 ft.



Barkhamsted

KEY MAP OF EAST HARTLAND HOMESTEADS

to 1911

- houses still standing
- old ruins of houses
- main roads
- - - discontinued roads

Drawn by David Ransom 1954
Based on Tiffany-Gaines index map
in Commonwealth Library

